Workers, Oppressed Nations and People of the World,

UNITE!

Political Newspaper of the Marxist-Leninist Organizing Committee

Vol. 4, No. 6 April 15, 1978 25c

Bitter Seven-Month Strike Ends at Pullman

Union bureaucrats embezzle funds, recruit scabs

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Government Policies Speed Destruction of Small Farmers

New bill directs subsidies into pockets of agri-business and rich farmers

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Alabama Police Murder Black Man after Traffic Violation

Boycott and march organized to protest grand jury whitewash

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Vets Haunted by Defoliant Used Against Vietnamese

Stricken By AgentOrange

More effects of the genocidal war waged by U.S. imperialism against the Vietnamese people have come home to roost.

During the years 1962 to 1970 a deadly chemical known as Agent Orange was sprayed on dense Vietnamese forests to deprive the Vietnamese liberation fighters of cover.

Now, years later, U.S. Vietnam veterans who were exposed to the defoliant are suffering physical and mental side effects, including loss of sensation in hands and feet and depression.

The Vietnamese have charged over the years that Agent Orange was still harming their people. Those who were sprayed suffer liver cancer and skin disorders, and their children arrive in the world missing fingers and toes. The U.S. imperialists dismissed these charges as "propaganda" and of course paid no reparations.

But a recent report by a Chicago CBS-TV investigative team says that birth defects in Vietnamese children born in areas sprayed by Agent Orange "bear chilling similarity to defects among children born ten years later to American veterans of Vietnam." The son of a Chicago veteran, for example, was born with no finger tips.

So, now, because the charges are being raised from the home front, the Veterans Administration is "shocked" and the Pentagon is being forced to "investigate." Already, 27 veterans in the Chicago area alone have come forward with these complaints.

Dioxin, a chemical herbicide used widely in the U.S. now, was a major ingredient in Agent Orange, but in much higher concentrations than is now used. This is one of the most powerful chemicals known. A biologist told the CBS investigators that Dioxin can be stored in human fat and then released into the body years later, causing the illnesses. He compared Agent Orange illnesses to the cancer suffered by GIs as a result of radiation exposures from atomic bomb blasts after World War II.

The exposure of the effects of Agent Orange by the Vietnamese and the GIs is a further indictment of U.S. imperialism. In its wars of aggression, the U.S. bourgeoisie has no concern for the peoples of the world, including the working and oppressed people of this country.

The vast majority of GIs who served in the Vietnam war were men and women of the working class. They were simply cannon fodder to the imperialists. It did not matter to the U.S. bourgeoisie that thousands died, nor did it matter that those who did not die would later suffer illness and their children have birth defects.

The U.S. imperialists must compensate the afflicted veterans and their families for any illness or side effects resulting from exposure to Agent Orange. We also demand that the U.S. bourgeoisie pay the promised war reparations to Vietnam for the pillage and rape of their countryside and people.

U.S. imperialism's genocidal wars of aggression against the revolutionary struggles of the peoples of the world will not stop out of the imperialists' concern for human life and well-being. That would mean to peacefully stop being an imperialist power.

The U.S. will no longer be an aggressive imperialist power only when the working class and its allies rise up and overthrow this oppressive capitalist system and establish the dictatorship of the proletariat. It will be on this basis that the peoples of the U.S. will be able to extend genuine internationalist aid to the just struggles of the world's peoples and make amends for the criminal activity of U.S. imperialism. ★

Special Supplement

Firsthand Report from Occupied Lebanon

UNITE! Photo

"Palestine Is Our Homeland"

Representatives from the Marxist-Leninist Organizing Committee were in Lebanon during the recent Israeli attack on the Palestinian and Lebanese people.

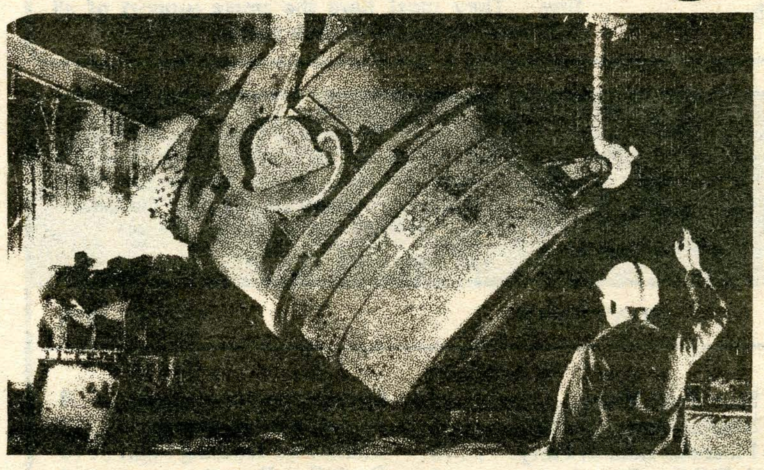
Through vivid photographs and interviews with the Palestine Liberation Organization in Beirut and refugees in southern Lebanon, this special report **"Palestine Is Our Homeland"**, reveals the brutal and aggressive nature of Israeli Zionism.

The editorial on page 2, "Arm in Arm with the Palestinian People: Palestine Will Be Free!", sharply focuses the real responsibility working class and progressive people of the U.S. have toward the Palestinian people because of the continued backing U.S. imperialism gives to Israel.

This is the first of a two-part report from the Middle East. Part two will appear in the May 15 **UNITE! Special Supplement**.

Capitalists Blame Increase on Coal Miners

Steel Prices Soar... Again



The steel companies have once again raised the price of steel, claiming the recent coal settlement will greatly boost the price of coal. Because coal is a major component in the steel-making process, the steel companies argue an increase in the price of coal requires an increase in the price of steel.

U.S. Steel was the first to raise prices, quickly jumping out with an increase of $10.50 a ton. Resistance quickly emerged in the form of smaller increases announced by other steel companies with the Carter administration backing the smaller increases. The capitalists as a class then agreed the new round of steel increases should be set at $5.50 per ton.

The capitalists claim this price hike in coal and steel is due to the increases in the wages of coal miners. This is a lie. The capitalists claim whenever there is a rise in wages there must be a corresponding rise in prices. This false and self-serving picture is based on the argument that the "price" of coal, steel and other products is the sum of the total "costs" of production. According to the capitalists, these "costs" are wages, raw materials, depreciation and "costs of capital", or profit.

Karl Marx showed over 100 years ago that profits are not "costs" but are in fact a surplus taken from the working class in the process of production. Thus when wages go up and prices stay the same, the surplus or profits pocketed by the capitalists are reduced.

By increasing their prices, U.S. Steel and the rest of the steel corporations are attempting to increase their profits at the expense of the working class and other capitalists.

Continued on page 5

Editorials

Arm in Arm with the Palestinian People: Palestine Will Be Free!

The March 1978 attack on southern Lebanon by the Israeli Zionists was a part of the 30-year history of the occupation of Palestine by the Zionist settler state and its unquenchable thirst for ever more Arab land. This latest attack follows four full-scale wars between the Zionists and the Arab peoples: in 1948, 1956, 1967 and 1973.

Ever since the 1880's, when the Zionist settlers began to immigrate to Palestine and tried to displace the Palestinian people by force, they have tried to justify their conquest with endless Biblical and other moral justifications. These justifications for occupation however, do not stop with the Palestinian land, but are applied to ever new territories. It has only been the armed resistance of the Palestinian and other Arab peoples which has kept the Zionist settlers from overrunning the entire Middle East.

Touring first hand the destroyed villages, as members of the Central Committee of the MLOC recently did, one cannot help but compare the "search and destroy" missions of the U.S.-backed Zionists to similar missions in Vietnam. In Lebanon, under every rock there appears, in the fascist Israeli outlook, one more terrorist. Therefore destroy every rock. Destroy and occupy. This is the logic of Israel today.

The barbaric attack on the Palestinian people and the people of Lebanon could not have been carried out, now or in the past, were it not for the complete support and backing of U.S. imperialism and the complicity of the reactionary Arab regimes.

Against the modern U.S. weapons, weapons so advanced that they were not yet available in Vietnam, the heroic Palestinian people fight to defend every village and every inch of land. Unlike the Israelis who fight on behalf of conquest and destruction, the Palestinian people are fighting for their homeland and their destiny. They fight a war against Zionism, imperialism and Arab reaction of all types.

The struggle of the Palestinian people is both a national struggle for self-determination, for their rightful homeland, and a class struggle. It is a struggle waged against the countless reactionary Arab leaders who contrive to undermine and destroy the Palestinian struggle. These Arab reactionaries are the front line helpers for the two superpowers – U.S. imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism. To such reactionaries as Sadat of Egypt and Hussein of Jordan the victory of the Palestinian people will mean a profound threat to their regimes.

Amongst the Palestinian people as well, there is a class struggle to be waged. The leadership of the Palestinian liberation struggle must be placed firmly in the hands of the workers and peasants in order to ensure that it be carried through to new democracy and socialism. This struggle within the ranks of the Palestinian people goes hand in hand with the struggle carried on against all external enemies, Arab and non-Arab.

The progressive people of the U.S. have a special responsibility to the people of Palestine, Lebanon and all of the Arab peoples. It is U.S. imperialism that is at the root of Zionist aggression. It is the working and oppressed people of the U.S. who must actively shoulder the task of severing the U.S. lifeline to Israel.

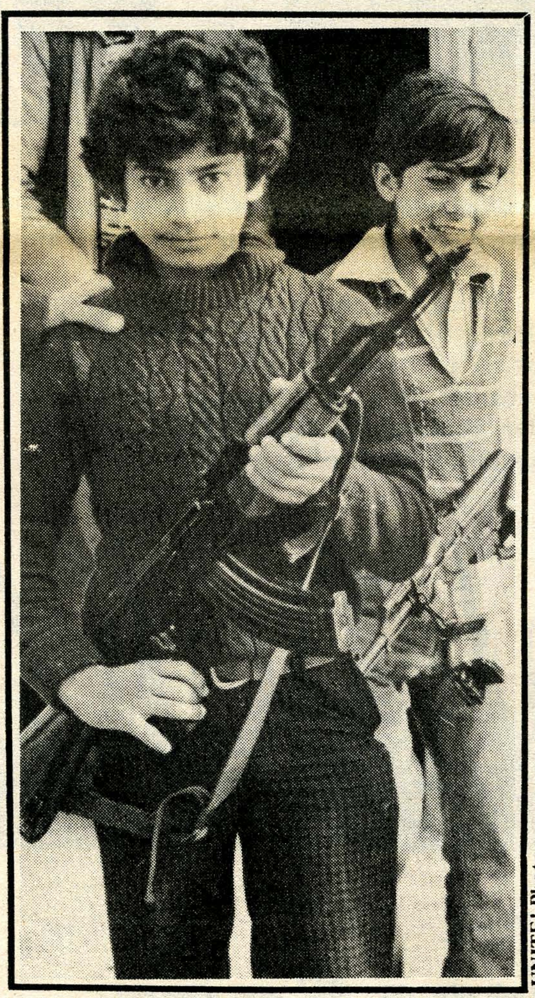
The powerful Zionist forces in the U.S., who have been able to strongly influence U.S. imperialism's support of Israeli Zionism, must be ruthlessly exposed and opposed at every turn. This must be done not only for the sake of the Palestinian people, but for the sake of the Jews of Israel and the U.S., as well, in whose name the Zionist minority savagely oppresses the Palestinian people.

It is time in the U.S. that support for the Palestinian people be raised to a higher level, to the level of mass struggle, comparable to the struggle against the war in Indochina. This will not happen easily but we must take up this work with renewed dedication.

The courageous Palestinian resistance will continue until final victory. This message is unmistakeably clear from every man, woman and child fighting for their homeland. It is our proletarian internationalist duty to see to it that they do not fight alone. They must fight with the active support of the millions of U.S. working people, shoulder to shoulder.

Victory to the Just Struggle of the Palestinian People!

Long Live Proletarian Internationalism!


UNITE! Photo

Against modern U.S. weapons, Palestinians of all ages are fighting for their homeland and their destiny. They must have the active support of all U.S. working people in their battle.

Letters to the Editor

☐ Proletarian Internationalist Support for Radio Liberation Eritrea

Comrades,

Revolutionary Greetings,

AESNA would like to express its comradely thanks to you for the genuine support you are rendering our people's struggle. Your concrete support to the Eritrean struggle and in particular your contributions to the Radio Project are a reflection of proletarian internationalism.

The tasks of the revolution demand close alliance between the revolutionary forces the world over. The fraternal relation that exists between our two organizations is in line with proletarian solidarity, reflecting the revolutionary solidarity between the American and Eritrean peoples. It will definitely strengthen the unity in struggle between the U.S. proletariat and the Eritrean people's national liberation struggle.

United we struggle; we surely will defeat our common enemies and win complete victory.

Long Live the Revolutionary
Solidarity Between the American
and Eritrean Peoples!

Long Live Proletarian
Internationalism!

Workers and Oppressed People of
the World, Unite!

Association of Eritrean
Students in
North America

New Bill Designed to Thwart Organizing GI's

The high rate of desertions, fraggings and sabotage during the Vietnam war, the increased resistance to working conditions and the talk of unionization in the ranks of the military today have become a real concern to the U.S. bourgeoisie.

One attempt to deal with this is a reactionary bill now before Congress that would try to end all organizing and resistance. This is Senate Bill 274, also called House Bill 120.

The proposed legislation would make it illegal for a member of the armed forces to join a union. In addition, it would be unlawful to bargain the conditions of military service, organize strikes or take any other concerted action among the military. Labor organizations would even be prohibited from representing grievances about the conditions of service.

The bourgeoisie recognizes that the drive towards organized resistance in the military, whether it is filing grievances, organizing unions or open revolt, threatens its ability to rule. The bourgeoisie uses the armed forces to crush revolutionary movements and subjugate nations for greater exploitation around the world. At home, the military is one of its weapons against the working class and oppressed peoples. Recently the bourgeoisie was using the military to help break the strike of the coal miners.

Working class men and women make up most of the ranks of the military. The working class movement must be able to neutralize the effectiveness of the military so that it is incapable of being used against the international working class and oppressed peoples. The working class knows the progressive forces in the military must be mobilized to turn their guns around and aim them at the real enemy, the U.S. bourgeoisie.

This is exactly what the Senate Bill 274 hopes to prevent.

The right of GI's to organize into a union under revolutionary leadership and to have the right to strike must be fought for and defended. This would be a major step towards organized resistance within the ranks of the military. GI's must also have the right to refuse to serve in an imperialist war which only serves the interests of the bourgeoisie.

The history of the revolutionary struggles of GI's has shown that under proletarian leadership the vast majority of men and women in the armed forces are willing to fight against imperialism and all reaction. This close bond between the class fighters in the military and the working class movement will make it possible to end the rule of the U.S. bourgeoisie forever. ★

UNITE!

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"Palestine is Our Homeland"

New Congressional Farm Bill Directs Subsidies into Pockets of Agri-Business and Rich Farmers

Government Policies Speed Destruction of Small Farmers

WE'VE BEEN SOLD OUT!
FARMING IS EVERYBODY'S

The long and militant farmers' strike has not yet ended. Farmers here protest the proposed farm bill that, instead of "saving the farmers" as the government claims, will further line the pockets of rich farmers and drive more small farmers into bankruptcy.

Secretary of Agriculture Robert Bergland has been praising the Carter administration efforts to "save the farmers". But all this talk is just a cover for the government's real activities – helping the large capitalist farms to bury small farmers.

In a January speech Bergland promised, "Under no circumstances will a farmer be foreclosed on or denied new credit for which he is eligible as long as there is a chance that he can remain on the farm."

At first glance this sounds as though small farmers might get a break, but in fact there is more than one catch here.

First a farmer must "qualify" for new credit. One of the low interest disaster loans requires that a farmer must have suffered production losses of 20% over the last year. This disregards that many small farmers have suffered losses over the last several years. Other loan programs have their own similar restrictions.

The second catch is that the government decides which farmers have a "reasonable chance" to remain in farming. By redefining "farms" to include only those which sell $1,000 worth of agricultural products or more per year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has automatically excluded more than 20% of all the farms in the country from any agricultural assistance program. These very poor farms are concentrated mostly in the South. Many are Black-owned and in fact more than half of the Black-owned or operated farms fall into this category.

After disposing of the most needy farmers by their statistical sleight of hand, the government policy makers go on to say that "Obviously, a farm with only $20,000 in gross sales is not a very viable operation" (David Brewster, National Economic Analysis Divison). In other words, only large farm operations, those with gross sales over $20,000 a year have a reasonable chance for success and qualify for guaranteed government loans. This means that another two million farms (80% of the total farms in 1969) could be excluded from Secretary Bergland's "moratorium".

The third catch to the moratorium policy is that even a farmer managing to qualify for credit, or who is eligible for a temporary halt in payments or for debt "restructuring" (spreading the payments out over a longer period of time) will be hurt more than helped. The plan is based on compound interest, which means that a farmer who borrows $5,000 would pay $14,000 before the debt is paid off. "It's a trap", said Ed White of the American Agriculture Movement.

Besides the loan relief programs, Bergland and other government officials point proudly to the aid they are giving farmers through the current farm bill based on a "target price" system. Over $80 million is going to wheat farmers, over $500 million to barley, grain and sorghum production. But these payments are tied to total production of a farm, increasing with the level of production.

This means that the farmers who need the help least get most of the funds. This is in keeping with U.S. agricultural policy of the last 30 years. In 1964-65 the top 20% of the farms, those with gross sales over $20,000 received 62% of the wheat subsidies and 56% of the feed grain subsidies.

This not only failed to help the small farmers, but it strengthened the position of the large capitalists. The result was the speeding up of the ruin of millions of small farmers.

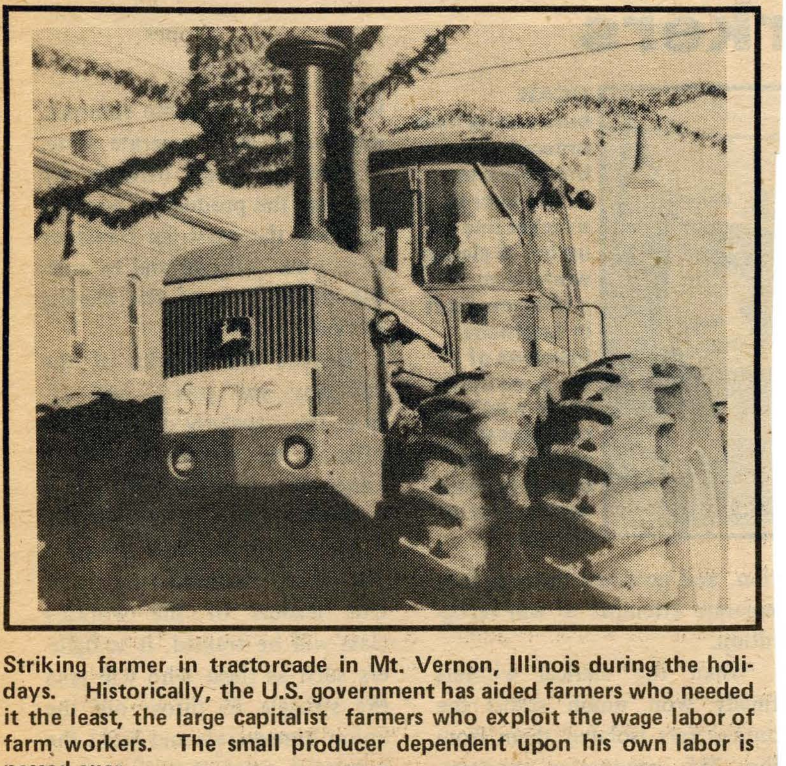
The government has always tried to cover up its role in this financial slaughter with a lot of sentimental talk about "saving the family farm". The question is not now and never has been whether or not a farm was run by a "family", but what is the class of farmer – large capitalist exploiting wage labor or small producer dependent on his own labor. The government has shown clearly by its actions that it stands firmly with the big bourgeois farmers.

This comes as no surprise, because the whole process of capitalism is the drive towards greater monopolization because it is more efficient and reaps greater profit. This inevitably means the destruction of small producers in agriculture as well as in industry. The government's farm legislation simply speeds up this operation by supplying the largest farmers with the funds they need to expand and by depriving the small farmers of the funds that they need to survive.

The forceable seizure of the small farmers' land by the biggest landowners will continue under capitalism. The small farmers can only find relief from their oppression by aligning themselves with the proletariat in overthrowing imperialism.

In the oppressed nations, where the agrarian revolution was not completed, the proletarian revolution will confiscate the land now held by the large landlords and redistribute some of it to the small farmers and agricultural workers, from whom it was stolen. Outside the oppressed nations, once the working class seizes state power from the capitalists, the small farmers will no longer be forceably removed from their land through foreclosures and other means. Through example and persuasion these small farmers will be won over to the process of land collectivization which will greatly increase the ability to produce more and better products by providing machinery and seed that a single farmer would be totally unable to buy. As a result of the increased productivity of the collective farms, the economic and social well-being of the farmers will be greatly improved.

UNITE! Photo



Striking farmer in tractorcade in Mt. Vernon, Illinois during the holidays. Historically, the U.S. government has aided farmers who needed it the least, the large capitalist farmers who exploit the wage labor of farm workers. The small producer dependent upon his own labor is passed over.

Marshals Clean Out Alabama Plant To Break Strike

Birmingham, Alabama – Federal marshals have crossed the picket lines at Chicago Bridge and Iron Company (CBI) and removed equipment and half-completed work to be transferred to other CBI plants around the country.

600 workers, members of the United Steelworkers of America (USWA), have been on strike at the two Birmingham area plants since last October 1. Management has refused to bargain with them.

The Birmingham CBI workers were saddled with a company union until 1974, when they voted in the USWA. Last year, hoping to break the union, the company refused to negotiate and forced the workers to go out on strike.

Contracts have been settled at the other CBI plants around the country, but the company is intent on disrupting the national unity of the USWA and, in particular, breaking the southern local. This is part of the pattern of U.S. imperialist oppression of the Black Belt South – keeping workers disorganized and wages and benefits low.

When the workers went out on strike they left some half-completed pressure valves in the plant. Not wanting to lose a cent of profit, CBI and Louisiana Power Company, who was buying the valves, got a court order for U.S. marshals to cross the picket lines and remove the goods.

The USWA filed a suit to stop this action, on the grounds that the Norris–LaGuardia Act de-

the union.

This is the reality of the so-called neutrality of the state: capitalist law first and foremost protects capitalist property. Once the state helps the capitalists move their production elsewhere, the workers are legally "free" to picket – an empty plant!

Moreover, this strike demonstrates the hypocrisy of the USW bureaucrats. They were willing to go to the capitalist courts in order to promote themselves as fighters for "justice" and to help foster the illusion of "neutrality" of the bourgeois state.

But what have they done about the company forcing USWA members in the North to scab on their fellow workers in the South? Nothing. The USWA should be organizing other CBI workers to refuse the work being brought from the Birmingham plants, by striking, if necessary.

All the self-congratulation of the union bureaucrats for going out and organizing workers in the South is worse than useless. Rather than actively working to build unity between the workers of the oppressed Black Nation and those in the rest of the U.S., the USWA is allowing some of its members to be used by the capitalists as scabs on other members. It is actually allowing itself to be broken in Birmingham, standing by while the capitalists and their state undermine the organized fighting capacity of the workers.

Clearly, workers cannot rely on either the capitalist courts or the union bureaucracy which has sold

Make Every Factory a Fortress!

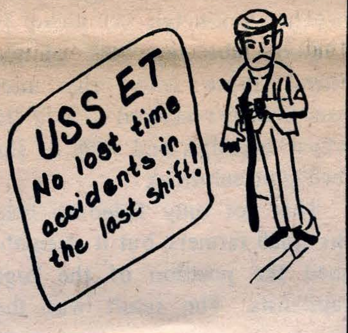
● Lost-Time Cover-up at U.S. Steel

Pittsburgh, Pennslyvania – For six months, the **Red Ingot**, the shop paper of the MLOC at U.S. Steel's Edgar-Thomson Works, has been waging a campaign against the company's cover up of lost-time injuries. The campaign is beginning to show signs of success.

The official figures for the Edgar-Thomson plant for 1977 showed that only 15 workers had to go home because of work-related injuries. The fact is that many times that number of workers suffer injuries for which they should get paid time off.

Instead, the company requires them to report to work every day and sit in the locker room – casts, crutches, slings and all. If they fall asleep or listen to the radio they are written up for goofing off "on the job". As a result, this plant has the best record in all of U.S. Steel for "so few" lost-time injuries.

But the **Red Ingot** now reports that more injured workers are being allowed to go home rather that sit in the locker room for weeks on end. Even the local union officials, who have always cooperated with the company in the cover up, are being forced, in an attempt to preserve their influence among the workers, to make a show of helping workers who are victims of the company's policy.


USS ET
No lost time accidents in the last shift!

These are still only slight changes, but they are important. They came about only because the communist shop paper voiced the collective feelings and needs of the workers and encouraged them to refuse to submit to such degrading treatment. They show that a genuine working-class center is coming into being in the plant, a movement that will eventually take the union back into working-class hands and make it a real weapon against capital.

THE RED INGOT
Mill Paper of the Marxist Leninist Organizing Committee at ET

●CP(M-L) Undermines Layoffs Fight

Fremont, California – The effort by workers to build a Stop Layoffs Committee at the General Motors plant in Fremont is being undermined by the Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist).

GM has been preparing for a large layoff by working everyone 58 hours a week and speeding up the line. As a result, the plant is now 180 days overproduced. In February, workers met to form a committee to fight the impending layoffs.

An article in the March issue of **The Conveyor**, the shop paper of the MLOC at GM Fremont, exposed how the CP(M-L) has misled the struggle against layoffs. The CP(M-L)'s plan for fighting these layoffs is to demand "32 for 40" (a 32-hour week for 40 hours' pay) and to march in Washington, D.C. for "Jobs or Income Now".

The "32 for 40" slogan only echos the liberal capitalists' lie that the contradictions of capitalism can be solved by reforms; namely, that a shorter work week will put an end to unemployment.

More importantly, **The Conveyor** pointed out, the CP(M-L) undermined the work of the new Committee when it was just getting started, by sending much of the leadership of the Committee off to march in Washington, stating that it was more important to march there than to organize at the plant.

The Conveyor summed up: "By pitting the work in the factories against the 'political' (i.e. against the government) struggle in Washington, the CP(M-L) denies the struggle for political power right within the United Auto Workers (UAW) and leaves the unions in (the) control of the union bureaucrats. This is the kind of opportunist practice that turns workers off to 'communists'."

In contrast, **The Conveyor** put forth a five-point plan to fight layoffs, focusing on organizing the workers to take up the struggle within the union.

the CONVEYOR
Shop Paper of the Marxist Leninist Organizing Committee at GM - Fremont

ainst opportunism is the pivot
the trade union movement!

ight for rkers

OCAW bureaucrats have ordered union brothers and sisters to cross a picket line set up by 15 clerical workers at a Chevron plant in Louisiana. Members of the same union, Local 4-447, the clerical workers have been without a contract for six months.

ion, and persisted through four eparate attempts to win recognition.

When the clerical workers inally won union status the ureaucrats isolated them from the 285 production workers, placing them in a separate bargaining unit (within the same local), with a separate contract, negotiated at a separate time.

Now the local officials are ordering the production workers to obey the no-strike clause of their own contract and to cross the picket line of the clerical workers.

Despite the attacks of the company and police, and despite the treachery of the union officials, the workers are determined to win: this small group is maintaining a 24-hour picket.

It is through these struggles and such determination that true leaders of the working class will be trained; it is fighters such as these who will lead the struggle to throw out the union bureaucrats and build the industrial unity that the working class needs. ★

in taking away the right to strike from all steelworkers.

(The incentive question only affected the workers at the freight car plants: those in Hammond, Indiana; Bessemer, Alabama and Butler, Pennsylvania. Workers at passenger car plants

show that their bills were past-due).

In February, the workers discovered that some $100,000 was missing from the strike fund. The local secretary-treasurer resigned, and the International union suspended the rest of the

Enough of these traitors! The McBrides, the Millers, the Meanys and all their cohorts have to be driven out. They have nothing in common with the vast majority of workers. It is their treachery that is the major cause of demoralization among the workers. The

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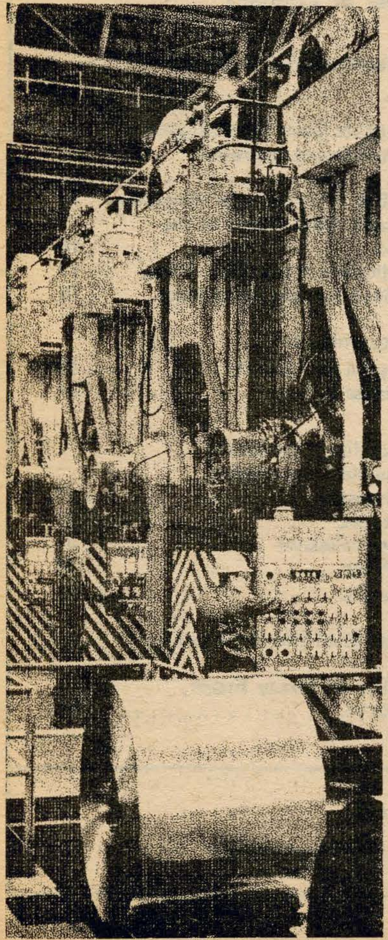

Steel Price Hikes...

Continued from page 1

The capitalists are continually trying to do this. Increases in coal wages are only the current excuse for increases in prices, and are not the determining factor. The price of steel does not have to rise because the coal miners won an increase in wages.

The steel monopolists are also attempting to get an ever bigger share of the total surplus directed toward their own pockets, at the expense of other capitalists. U.S. Steel was trying to do this by raising prices $10.50 per ton. And this is what other capitalists, operating through the Carter administration, resisted.

Unable to control inflation, the Carter administration can only seek to guide inflation in the interests of the capitalists against the needs of the workers, attempting to keep the price increases of the contending monopoly sectors in some kind of acceptable relationship with each other. Careening prices for metals and energy show that this cannot be done. By their own admission, the capitalists have more and more problems to solve, and fewer and fewer means to solve them. ★

Washington, D.C., to concretely support the Stearns miners.

Music was provided by a wide variety of performers. Hazel Dickens, born and raised in the coal country of West Virginia, sang such songs as "Black Lung", and "Working Girl Blues". Other singers included Jean Mackey and Penny Rosenwasser, who sang coal mining songs like "Mark of the No. 9 Coal" as well as songs about the oppression of women under capitalism. All of the excellent performers contributed to a night of culture devoted to advancing the struggle of the working and oppressed people in this country.

The benefit raised over $2100 which was desperately needed by the Stearns strikers and their families. A striker from Stearns, Russel Vanover, spoke of the ongoing struggle. From the beginning the strike has met with stiff resistance, not only from Blue Diamond, but also from armed attacks by company-hired gun thugs and state troopers.

Mr. Vanover also told of the financial difficulties the strikers and their families have faced as a result of the union-busting tactics of the company. But at the same time he spoke of the confidence of the strikers and the support they have received from around the country.

"I like to visit D.C.", said

A Call for Questions

The **Draft Party Program** sets out the true aims, objectives and demands of the working class in battle against U.S. imperialism. This **Draft Party Program** will provide the basis for a new Marxist-Leninist Party to be formed soon. On May 1st – the International Day of Workers Solidarity we will begin a series of commentaries on this Program. These commentaries will explain important aspects of the Program, and draw demarcation with all other opportunist trends in the U.S. In order to deepen the understanding of the proletariat and its allies, we will respond to questions and criticisms of the Program.

Do you have questions about the Program you would like answered?

Are there parts of the Program you would like explained in depth?

Are there differences with the Program you would like discussed in the pages of **UNITE!**?

If so, send your questions and comments. Please forward these by May Day if possible. Questions received after this date will be responded to after the commentaries are completed. Send all mail to: MLOC, PO Box 4781, Chicago, Illinois 60680 U.S.A.

Draft Party Program

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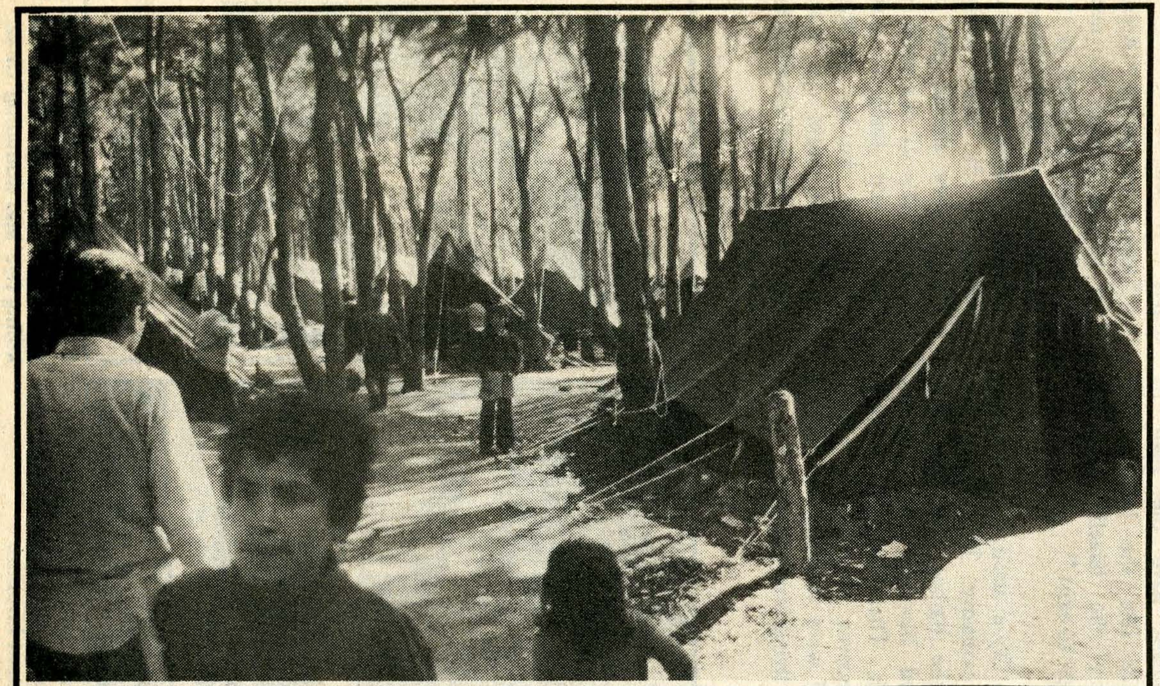
Take Up the Struggle to Build the Party! Study the Draft Party Program!

Use the Draft Program as a Guide to Class Struggle! Fight for the Dictatorship of the Proletariat!


UNITE! Photo

This 200 - tent refugee camp at Saida shelters 1,000 homeless people. It exists as a direct result of the Israeli Zionists' aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese people.

Homeless in Southern Lebanon

Life in a Refugee Camp

Within hours of the invasion of southern Lebanon by Israeli Zionist troops, many towns and villages had been destroyed. Rockets, shelling from warships and artillery, bombing from airplanes, and the total destruction of towns by the advancing tank columns forced thousands of civilians to flee for their lives. Often separated from their families, lacking any of their possessions or material needs, these refugees from Zionism found their way to camps set up in secure areas.

In Saida, one such camp has been set up. Within 13 days, 1000 homeless Lebanese and Palestinians have reached the camps in small groups. 200 tents shelter them. The sanitation, water and cooking facilities are makeshift. Some are injured.

The life of the camp is organized by committees, who buy food, arrange for meals, health care and other necessities. These committees are predominantly civilian in composition, volunteers from among the refugees themselves.

The arrival of food depends greatly on the Red Cross and United Nations organizations, as most of these refugees have no money, and have lost all of their possessions.

Many of the people in the camp will not be able to return to their homes until the UN troops have taken control of southern Lebanon. Even when they return, they will find that many of their homes have been destroyed by Israeli shelling. When they return home, they will live in tents again, until they are able to rebuild their houses.

Even in the camps, the refugees are not safe. Israeli planes have bombed numerous camps in the past. Malnutrition is evident everywhere, as beans and rice form the basis of the refugees' diet. Meat and vegetables are luxuries, as money and work are scarce.

These tent cities are the direct result of the Zionist expansionist aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese people. For 30 years, the Palestinian people have been forced to live as refugees in their own homeland, or in neighboring states. But the Palestinian revolution continues undaunted, and will inevitably triumph! Out of the tent cities the Israelis have created come the fighting forces which will someday establish a free, democratic, secular Palestinian state, where all people of the area can live in peace and security. ★

Revolution Until Victory!

UNITE!

POLITICAL NEWSPAPER OF THE MARXIST-LENINIST

10c

Special Supplement

April 15, 1978

UNITE! Photo

Firsthand Report from Occupied Lebanon

"Palestine Is Our Homeland"

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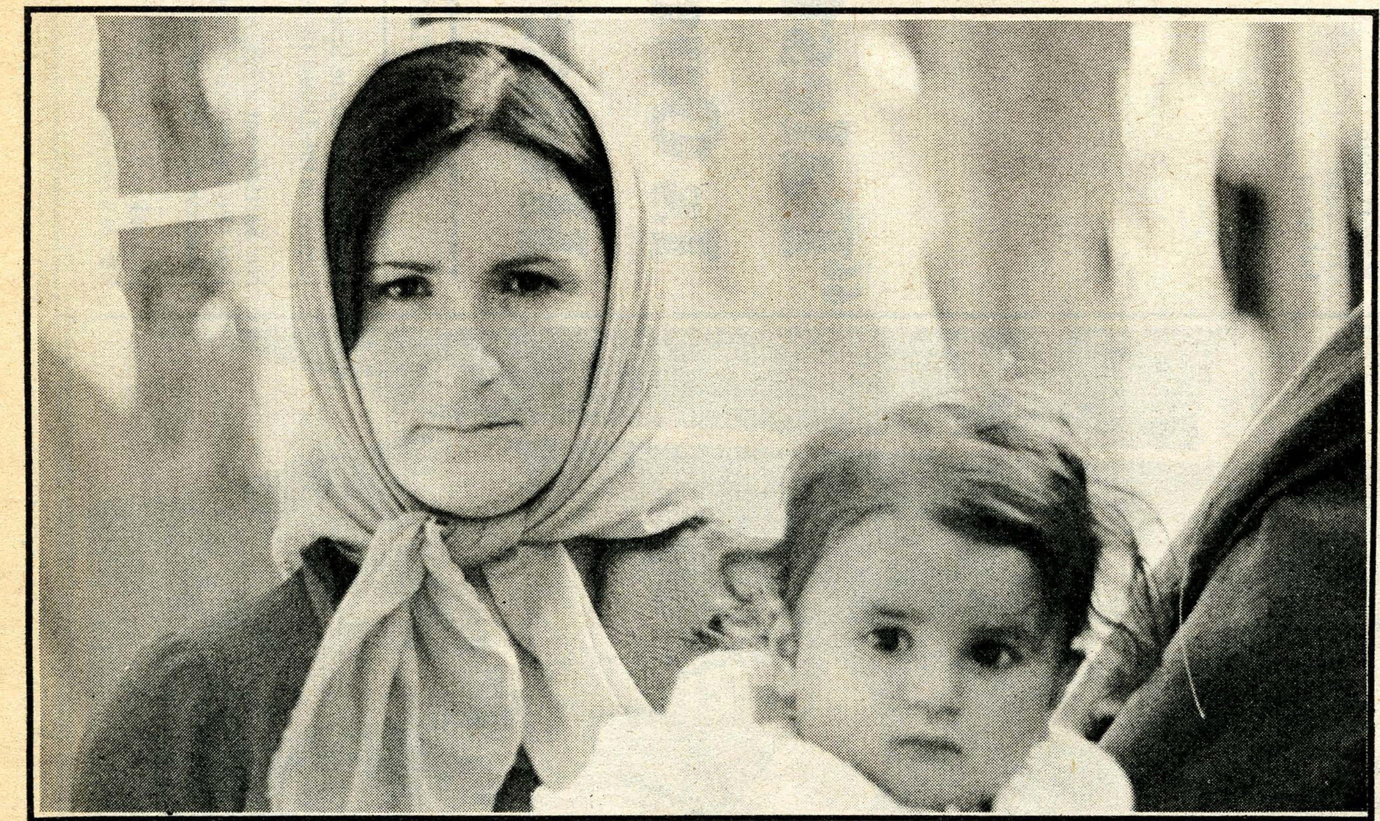
UNITE! – Political Newspaper of the Marxist-Leninist Organizing Committee – PO Box 8041 Chicago, Illinois 60680 U.S.A.

Palestinian People Speak Out

Report on the Zionist Invasion of Lebanon


UNITE! Photo

This twenty-year old Palestinian woman was separated from her family during the height of the invasion. Her husband is dead, and four of their children are missing. She is staying in the refugee camp at Saida until it is safe for her to return home.

On March 15, Zionist Israeli troops entered Lebanon, backed by tanks, fighter-bombers, and bombardment along the coast from warships. In four columns they advanced against the Lebanese civilian population, killing 176 and wounding 392. Many of the civilians fled to safer areas, where they set up refugee camps (see Page 4).

The attacks began without warning. One 20-year-old Lebanese woman told about the attack on the village of Markaba, just a few miles from the Israeli border.

She was out of the village when the Israelis attacked, but returned upon hearing news of the invasion. When she arrived at her village, she found all the people fleeing the advancing Israeli troops. Her husband had been killed by a bomb. Four of her five children are missing in the fighting, their fates unknown. A **UNITE!** correspondent interviewed this woman.

UNITE! – Why do you think the Israelis attacked your village?

Woman – My village was too close to the Israeli border. There are only a few meters between the border and our village. This is not the first time the Israelis have entered our village. They have come many times before, searching for somebody. But this time they want to capture the whole area.

UNITE! – What did the Israelis do to the villages?

Woman – They hit all the towns without any difference as to whether there were fighters or only civilians there. They attack the whole village. They used their airplanes to scare the people and make them flee the village.

UNITE! – What is the role of the U.S. government in this?

Woman – Israel is nothing without America. The American government gives Israel everything – F15s and all these sophisticated weapons to attack the civilian population in the south of Lebanon. Israel attacks southern Lebanon with the agreement of the U.S.

The Israelis killed a lot of civilians in the south of Lebanon without any reason. In Kunin, they entered a house and killed a whole family for no reason at all.

Shelling of Tyre

Another main area of attack by the Zionist forces was along the coast of Lebanon, as far as the city of Tyre. The attack on Tyre began at midnight of the 15th of March, when Israeli gunboats started shelling the Palestinian camps and civilian residences around the coastal cities. Heavy battles were fought between the Zionist forces and the Palestinian Joint Forces and the Lebanese people. For seven consecutive days, Israeli artillery, rockets, naval warships and jets bombarded civilian positions in Tyre, Rashidieh Camp, Al-Bass Camp and Burj Al-Shamali Camp, as Israeli infantry advanced on Tyre.

In the town of Shatia, south of Tyre, the population first learned of the invasion when gunboats started shelling Palestinian camps and the city of Tyre, inflicting heavy damage. At first, the civilians thought this was only a raid in retaliation for the Palestinian actions in the occupied territories, and particularly the seizure of a bus on the Tel Aviv-Haifa highway.

After midnight, however, they heard radio reports that there was in progress an Israeli invasion in all of southern Lebanon. One of the refugees from Shatia said,

> "When the Israelis started advancing, in every village they went through, they arrested all of the youth from the village, because they consider all of the southern youth as fighters with the Palestinian commandos.... They arrested Lebanese, everybody! They wanted to create a state of panic to make people flee their villages".

When **UNITE!** asked this man what happened to the villages around his, he stated:

> "In the villages which surround our village, the majority of houses were destroyed during the Israeli advance. A lot of civilians were killed in this attack. There were no fighters in these villages, just civilians.
>
> The Israelis say in their propaganda that they are attacking only the Palestinians. And as you can see they are not attacking only the Palestinians because they attack all civilian Lebanese people. But the Palestinians have the right to exist like the Israelis. Not only the Israelis have the right to exist."

In Tyre itself, the bombing was extensive. The planes first hit the harbor area, and then started bombing the neighborhoods. There was no warning whatsoever. Most of the people killed were civilians, who earned their living from fishing.

Resistance to Aggression

Despite a lack of men and equipment, the Joint Forces of the Palestinian revolution put up heroic resistance to this invasion. On every front of the attack, the Joint Forces fought with tenacity, determination and bravery. At the Al Khardali Bridge in eastern Lebanon, the Palestinian forces stopped the advance of Israeli tanks and during a 50-hour-long battle inflicted heavy losses on the Zionist forces.

In addition, in several areas, the Palestinian forces took the offensive, bombarding Israeli settlements and rightist positions. House-to-house fighting in the cities was intense, as the Palestinian forces refused to give up another foot of land to the Zionist invaders. 144 brave fighters were killed, wounded or missing as a result of their selfless resistance to Israeli expansionism.

The True Colors of Zionism

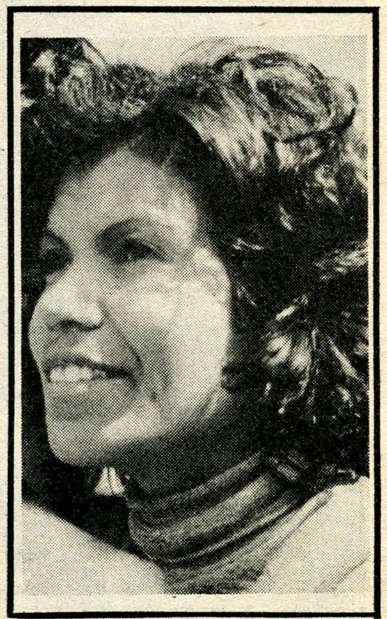
Menachem Begin may talk of peace, but in southern Lebanon he has shown his true colors as the representative of expansionist, racist Zionism. His troops have slaughtered civilians without regard for age or innocence. In one city, the Israeli troops destroyed two civilian taxis and murdered 23 people indiscriminately, **all of them children or young men.** In many areas of southern Lebanon, there has been arbitrary strafing of civilian neighborhoods, leaving many dead in each home. "Peace-loving" Begin is in fact the murderer of Lebanese and Palestinian people of all ages, occupations and religious sentiments.

But the people of Lebanon still support the just Palestinian cause. As one woman (pictured below) from the city of Tyre stated,

> "Aren't we people? Aren't we human beings? We need a homeland. Palestine is our homeland. I think the Israelis (Zionists) cannot be human beings to do these savage things. They should give us a small part of our country. We are not going to push them into the sea as they think. We want to make real Palestine, democratic Palestine."

UNITE! Photo

The long fighting in Lebanon has left its scars on the face of the cities and countryside. The capital city of Beirut has been damaged in the continuing civil war. Commerical buildings and private homes alike were demolished when the Zionists shelled the coastal city of Tyre during the most recent invasion.


UNITE! Photo

This woman told UNITE! that her neighbor's house was demolished, killing five and wounding three.

No Settlement Without Justice for the Palestinian People

Interview with Mr. Labadi, PLO Spokesman
Beirut, Lebanon - March 31, 1978

UNITE! Photo

The whole Palestinian people support the struggle for their homeland, regardless of age, sex or religion. These boys aid the Joint Forces in the defense of Palestinian rights.

The Palestinian people's struggle for their homeland is one of the most crucial struggles for national liberation in the world today. Time and again the Palestinians have resisted the imperialists' and reactionaries' attempts to crush their just struggle. The reactionaries of the world have used all possible methods to contain and control this revolutionary struggle through armed aggression, like the recent Zionist attack on Lebanon and they have also used political manueverings like the negotiations between Sadat, Israel and the U.S.

But the Palestinian people will not submit. They will continue to resist and fight until their just demands are met. They are determined to continue the armed struggle until final victory. This victory of the Palestinian people will be a significant advance for the peoples of the world and at the same time it will be a powerful blow to the camp of imperialism and all reaction.

Representatives of the Marxist-Leninist Organizing Committee were in Lebanon during the recent Zionist invasion. This interview was conducted with Mr. Labadi, a representative of the Palestinian Liberation Organization on March 31, 1978.

UNITE!: Could you explain the significance of the recent Palestinian raid into Israel?

Palestine Liberation Organization: First, I have to say that the operation on the highway Tel Aviv-Haifa had its different political and military reasons. First we had to show that the Israelis cannot close their borders. We can always attack. We can secure our operations inside the occupied territories no matter what they say, no matter what they do for security. We want to show them that we can really penetrate their security belt. We are determined to carry out our just struggle, our just resistance against occupation. We also have to show the whole world that no political solution in the world can be settled at the expense of the Palestinian people and the Palestinian just cause.

For these important reasons we launched this operation in Tel Aviv. I think that it was a just attack, a just military resistance operation of an oppressed people expressing their dissatisfaction – to express their determination not to kneel, not to accept oppression, persecution, destruction and torture. Not to accept all the inhuman acts committed by the Israelis against our people.

So it was a resistance operation of an oppressed people. We have to express ourselves and this is the only way that we can do it because we have been waiting for the UN resolution (242) for many years without it being executed. Many other resolutions have been passed asking the Israelis to recognize the rights of the Palestinians: to recognize the Palestinian state; to withdraw from occupied territories; to stop building settlements. The Israelis are committing all these atrocities against our people, against our just cause. We are just resisting.

UNITE!: There seems to have been a period when the PLO was not utilizing terrorist activity, for instance in 1977. Did this represent more of a belief that a negotiated settlement could be obtained?

PLO: Well, negotiated settlement or not, we are not against peace. We are for a just settlement. If the settlement is just, we are for it. We will support it either negotiated or not negotiated. We are for justice; we are for our rights; we are for our people. If it comes through negotiations, let it come. If it doesn't come through negotiations, we have no other choice left but to resist, to struggle,to express our will, our determination that we will continue our just struggle for our just cause.

UNITE!: But do you think that a negotiated settlement is a reality at this time or not?

PLO: Negotiated settlement? No, I think the Israelis don't want any settlement, any negotiated settlement, in the Middle East. The Israelis are against peace because they don't want to withdraw from occupied territories. They don't want to stop building settlements. They don't want to recognize the rights of the Palestinian people. They don't want to recognize a Palestinian state. They don't want to recognize the PLO. They don't want to stop importing Jewish settlers from Europe and the U.S. to Palestine. So all these are signs of Israeli stubbornness, Israeli intransigence, and Israeli warmongering in the area. That means there will not be a peace settlement.

UNITE!: What role do you believe the U.S. has in promoting Israel today, and what role did it play in the recent attack by Israel on southern Lebanon?

PLO: The F-15s, the Phantoms, the Skyhawks – all those weapons, the missiles, the tanks, are U.S.-made weapons. If you give somebody weapons, it's not for peace reasons. And the Israelis are using those weapons to kill our people. If they have weapons they will never settle peace. That means they are spoiled by American weapons, American money, finance, aid, etc. That's why we cannot see any real Israeli step towards a real, just peace in the Middle East.

UNITE!: President Carter seems to be taking a number of actions and initiatives towards the situation in the Middle East. How do you view the tactics of the Carter administration?

PLO: As a matter of fact, it is difficult to say if there is really an independent Carter tactic. Mostly we see no difference between the U.S. and Israel, tactically. It is one attitude. Although there is some talk about differences between Carter and Begin, really we see no significant difference between Israel and the U.S. It is possible that the President is not capable of exerting any form of pressure, that he is a weak man, he cannot really do something effective, or he can but he doesn't want to. He is just implementing U.S. interests in the region (Middle East). So what is Carter doing? He is serving U.S. interests.

UNITE!: Do you think U.S. policy is changing at all, or that it remains essentially the same?

PLO: Essentially we can say there is no change in the U.S. policy in the Middle East. Although we can say maybe here or there are some changes, on the practical level we see no changes. no real attempt to change their policy.

UNITE!: At the 13th Session of the Palestinian National Council there's a 15-point program advanced and there are a number of points we would like to ask about now, to see if the current situation has changed the view of the PLO on some of these questions. For instance, in that program it spoke of the importance of the Palestinian-Lebanese alliance. What is the situation with that alliance today? Does a real alliance exist?

PLO: Yes. It's the only real alliance in the Arab world. It's a real alliance on the mass level – the alliance between the Lebanese people and the Palestinians. This is a really good alliance. It is holding and we are supporting as much as we can our Lebanese brothers and they are also supporting us. It is the only real support and alliance on the mass level in the Arab world.

UNITE!: So how do you evaluate the reports that suggest that some Lebanese people are not as sympathetic to the Palestinian cause as they were in the past, because of the Israeli attacks on the Lebanese people?

PLO: There have always been some agents in Lebanon who cooperate with the Israelis. They are known and they will never be sympathetic to the Palestinian people. But the Lebanese people in general, they are with the Palestinians, they are with the Palestinian cause and with the Palestinian's just struggle.

UNITE!: The 15-point program spoke about the Arab front as the supreme challenge to the Arab struggle today. How do you evaluate this? Is there any real Arab front or Arab unity that exists today?

PLO: We cannot say that. But we are doing our best to form such a front of real steadfastness against

Continued on next page

From the
Party of Labor of Albania

The Just Cause of the Arab Peoples is Invincible!

An editorial from the newspaper
"Zeri i Popullit"
November 29, 1977
in support of the Arab
peoples' struggle, and in
condemnation of the theorists
of the "three worlds" and their
support for the Carter-Sadat-
Begin "peace" plan.

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Interview with the PLO...

UNITE! Photo

Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO, speaking at a rally in Lebanon on Land Day, which marks the anniversary of Palestinian resistance to land confiscation inside Israel.

Continued from previous page

the Israeli invasion and against the Israeli occupation.

UNITE!: It seems that today there is a bigger split among the Arab countries than ever before.

PLO: Yes, there is.

UNITE!: What is the implication of this for the Palestinian struggle?

PLO: We are trying to unite the Arabs in one front and bring them closer together. We are making all efforts to bring the Arabs closer, to fight the common enemy, because the common enemy of the Arabs, of course, are the Zionists and the imperialists. This Arab solidarity front has suffered a lot since Sadat's visit to Israel. We hope that we will restore this unity.

UNITE!: In your view, what is the main obstacle to building the unity of the Arab people today?

PLO: It's difficult to say. Many, many things. Many, many obstacles. Mainly on the higher level, on the official level. On the mass level there are no obstacles.

UNITE!: Do you think that the Zionist ideology presents a danger to the Jewish people?

PLO: Yes, it does. It is a danger more to the Jews than to the Arabs, because many Jews fell prey to the Zionist propaganda and believe the Zionist propaganda. They were misled by the Zionist propaganda, especially in Europe and in the U.S. It is really a danger because Zionism also isolates the Jews, and creates more tension in European and American communities against Jews. That means that this will create hatred between Jews and non-Jews in Europe and America. And this is the danger of the Zionist ideology.

UNITE!: What is your evaluation of the close ties which exist between Israel and South Africa?

PLO: They are the same type of society. White Africans are white settlers who came from Europe, mostly from Holland, to settle in South Africa. It's the same character as Israel where the Jews came from Europe and all over the world to settle in the Middle East. It is the same character, the same type of society, the same mentality of invasion, of expansion, and so on. The same mentality of aggression, living at the expense of the people in the Middle East or Africa, with a fascist mentality to rule these areas. This is why there are very good relations between South Africa and Israel. They have cooperation in different fields, on the scientific, atomic and military levels. Both states have very close relations with each other.

UNITE!: How does the PLO assess the fact that the Israeli state possesses nuclear weapons? Do you think they will use them?

PLO: Of course they will use them at some time. That's why they have them. If you have something you use it. They are developing those nuclear weapons in order to threaten the Arab countries and to always be superior in the Middle East.

UNITE!: Does the PLO still hold to the creation of an interim entity in the Gaza Strip and on the West Bank?

PLO: Yes. You know we have also adopted a resolution to establish an independent Palestinian state in every part of Palestine liberated by political or military means. And if the West Bank and the Gaza Strip is evacuated, we will establish such a state. This is our aim.

UNITE!: Would this be the equivalent of a mini-state? There is much confusion about the views of the Palestinian people regarding a mini-state.

PLO: Officially it is our stand to establish an independent state. This is our aim in this stage of our struggle. But as I told you, there are no signs of Israeli withdrawal, and I don't think that the Israelis are going to be defeated in the coming few days or in the coming years, because the Israelis are much stronger than the Arab countries together and they have better weapons.

UNITE!: What do you think it will take to defeat the Israelis? It appears that the Arab people as a whole certainly have the capability, the resources, people, and the wealth to defeat a small group of isolated people, the Zionists.

PLO: No, they are not so small or isolated. They are supported by the U.S. They are not alone. And the U.S. is one of the biggest powers in the world. The Arab countries are divided, they are backward. They don't have the same capabilities and potentials; they don't have the high techniques and so on. We have to recognize this fact. But in the long run, of course, this balance will be changed, will be shifted to the benefit of the Arabs. Our strategy of long-range war: to fight against the Israelis and Israeli occupation, which is the only way to defeat them.

UNITE!: What is the significance of Land Day for the Palestinian struggle?

PLO: This Day of the Land is an opportunity, a very important opportunity. It is on this day that the Palestinians inside Israel rose up against the confiscation of their properties, of their lands and against the building of settlements near their villages – Zionist settlements. It's this day when six Palestinians were killed by Israeli police during demonstrations, which took place in Israel, not on the West Bank and in Gaza. That's why we solidarize with our people inside Israel on the Day of the Land.

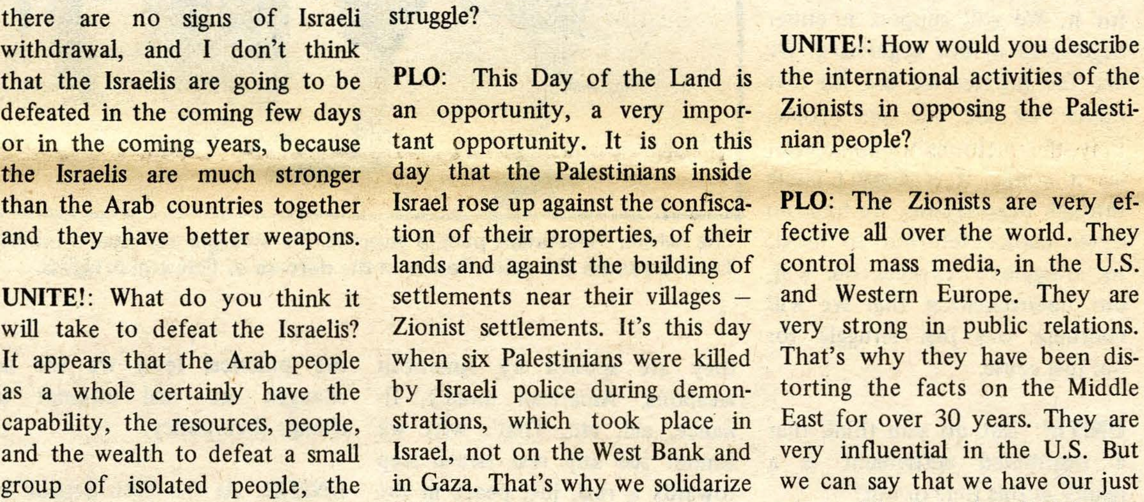
UNITE!: How would you describe the process of unity among the Palestinian people at this point?

PLO: It is good unity, you know. We have held together against the Zionists in southern Lebanon. We have faced aggression during the civil war. We have good unity. We have a Joint Command. We have a joint military and political program. So there is unity within the Palestinian movement and the Palestinian organizations. Although every organization has its own political program, we also have a common, joint program for all of us. This is very important.

UNITE!: How would you describe the international activities of the Zionists in opposing the Palestinian people?

PLO: The Zionists are very effective all over the world. They control mass media, in the U.S. and Western Europe. They are very strong in public relations. That's why they have been distorting the facts on the Middle East for over 30 years. They are very influential in the U.S. But we can say that we have our just cause. We face Israeli injustice with our justice. I think there is a change in the world. World public opinion has started to realize the facts in the Middle East, due, of course, to the Palestinian heroic resistance, heroic struggle and fight against Israel. It is not easy to face the Zionist propaganda as I said, because it's very influential. But we will carry on.

UNITE! Photo



Driven from their homeland, Palestinian refugees fled to neighboring Arab countries where they live in poverty in refugee camps. During the Zionist invasion of Lebanon, these camps were the target of attack and received heavy shelling. 176 civilians were killed. Others were forced to flee their homes once again.

UNITE!: The '74 speech at the UN and the events right after that was one of the high points in the international support and recognition for the PLO. Do you think that in the last couple of months,with the various moves by Sadat and other developments, the political support for the PLO is not as strong as it was a year or two ago?

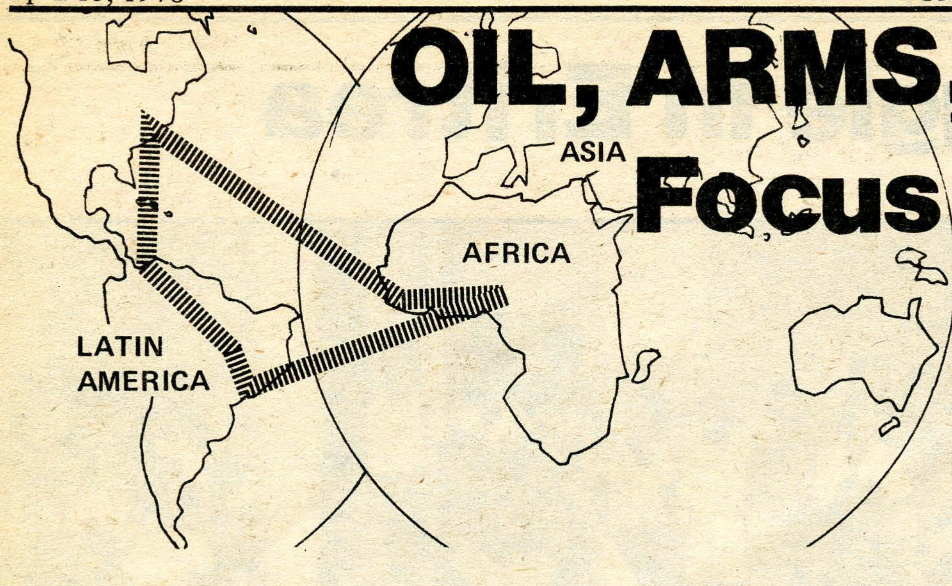
PLO: I can say the opposite. In '74 we had the breakthrough. We really penetrated the wall of isolation on the international level. We achieved international recognition and it was a great success. The whole world knew then that the Palestinians do exist. Before, the Israelis were always saying that the Palestinians do not exist, there is no such a people. In terms of international support now, there are many honorable people, progressive, democratic forces in the world, who really support our just cause, and this support still continues.

UNITE!: May 15th marks 30 years of occupied Palestine. What do you look forward to in the next thirty years?

PLO: We will carry on the struggle, as I said, because we have no other choice. We will fight, we will resist, we will organize ourselves as much as we can, as well as we can. The responsibilities which fall on us are very difficult, very severe. We have to be in a position to defend our cause on all levels – political, diplomatic, military, even on the mass media, information, propaganda level. So this is our duty. I think we have achieved a lot since we started the fight in 1965, since our movement was created in 1965. It has been a big success for our movement. At least we can say that every man in the world knows, hears every day about the Palestinian people and about their struggle and their cause and their fight. So this is a very important achievement of our movement.

UNITE!: Is there any statement which you would like to make to the working class and oppressed people of the U.S.?

PLO: All I want to tell them is to stop paying taxes to Israel. This is a very important point because their taxes are sent directly to Israel. The Israelis buy destructive weapons to kill our people. So their taxes are killing our people. I want to ask them to stop paying taxes to Israel and to demonstrate against Carter's policy of always giving new weapons to Israel. I want to tell the working class to build solidarity more and more with the just cause of the Palestinian people. I think their solidarity in the U.S. is very important to demonstrate for a just peace in the Middle East.



OIL, ARMS, CUBAN TROOPS: Focus of New Carter Trip

Trip Hailed as End of "Yanqui Imperialism" and Era of the "Ugly American"

On April 2, President Carter returned to Washington from a seven-day tour of Venezuela, Brazil, Nigeria and Liberia. This trip to South America and Africa was the final leg of international travel begun early this year when Carter flew to Europe, India and the Middle East. Following up the program of strengthening ties with key countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, Carter met with leaders of two oil-producing nations, Nigeria and Venezuela, and with President Geisel of Brazil.

Key topics of discussion were oil, arms and Cuban troops in Africa. These issues reflect the U.S. bourgeoisie's two main concerns in Asia, Africa and Latin America: 1) to keep oil and other raw materials flowing freely to the U.S., while opening up new markets for U.S. goods; 2) to counter Soviet and Cuban intervention in Africa.

In press statements and public speeches, however, the most frequent topic was "human rights". The "human rights" campaign is Carter's way of convincing the developing countries that his administration means the humanizing of U.S. imperialism. Here at home, the bourgeoisie has hailed this trip as evidence that the era of the "ugly American" and "Yanqui imperialism" of the old days are gone forever. His ceremonious refuelling stopover in Liberia – a country established with U.S. aid by former slaves from the South – was aimed at driving home the image of the U.S. as a kindly uncle.

Behind this international diplomacy lie the harsh realities of the struggle for world hegemony. The Carter smile and handshake will not change the nature of imperialism. The aims remain the same, though the tactic for the time being has become the soft-sell. The aim is still economic penetration and political domination of the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. But now this goal must be pursued under the conditions of superpower contention and collusion, and in the face of mounting liberation struggles.

Immense Trade Imbalance

Today over one third of all U.S. exports are destined for the developing countries. This is double the total market in Europe. The U.S. hopes to increase this amount, in order to offset an increasingly lopsided trade situation. The U.S. currently buys far more than it sells, creating a balance of payments deficit of $20 billion dollars.

This defict is due primarily to the import of millions of barrels of oil which arrive in the U.S. each day. In addition, high profits for the U.S. capitalists require the lowest possible prices on raw materials from the developing countries, which supply the factories at home. Four of the seven developing countries which Carter visited in his two trips were oil producers. Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Venezuela are the number one, two and three oil exporters to the U.S. Iran is fifth, behind Libya. Carter's message to the oil producing nations has been: keep oil prices down.

In Africa, the support given Nigeria and the pressure brought to bear on South Africa mirror economic reality. Trade with Nigeria increased by 44% last year, double the value of trade with South Africa. The U.S. now plans to arm Nigeria, agreeing to sell weaponry, including jet fighters. U.S. imperialism plans to bolster Nigeria as the most advanced and influential country in black Africa. Carter wants Nigeria to help find a "solution" in Zimbabwe, Namibia and Azania – a solution which preserves the interests of U.S. imperialism.

Strategic Southern Africa

While in Nigeria, Carter applauded blacks in Namibia and Zimbabwe for their efforts to bring racial equality to southern Africa. He pledged continued support for black majority rule. He continued his campaign to convince black Africans that they have an ally in Washington concerned about "human rights".

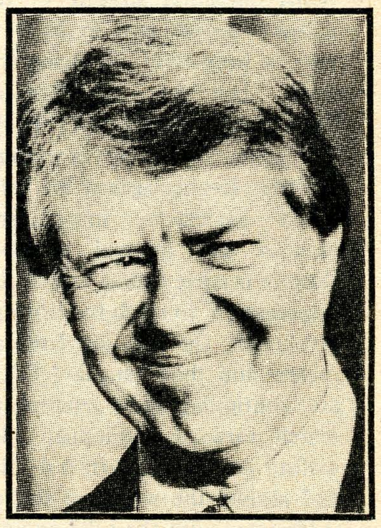
But at the same time, he cautioned blacks to be patient, reject armed struggle, and rely on whites to speed up the peaceful transition to black majority rule. Above all, he stressed that African problems must be solved by Africans. This echoed earlier statements that he was "profoundly preoccupied" by the Cuban and Soviet presence in Africa. New estimates have between 16,000 and 17,000 Cuban troops in Ethiopia.

Cuban troops are the military arm of Soviet social-imperialism in Africa. Their increasing numbers result from the Soviet Union's aggressive moves on the African continent. The Soviet Union is incapable at this time of dominating African states through economic aid and investments. Instead it buys client states with military "aid".

The U.S.'s call for an African solution to African problems and condemnation of the presence of Soviet and Cuban troops and advisors is a cover for the U.S. bourgeoisie's need to ensure U.S. neo-colonial control through economic penetration behind the scenes.

President Carter was the first U.S. President to travel to black Africa. His trip shows the strategic importance of Asia, Africa and Latin America to U.S. imperialism. The U.S. needs the raw materials and markets of the developing countries to maintain the economic and political strength of U.S. imperialism.

Carter's message was "we need each other" and made it clear that the U.S. was willing to pay. He stated that he is prepared to increase direct and indirect foreign aid, reschedule outstanding loan payments, and speed up the delivery of advanced technology. In return the U.S. imperialists demand loyal client states. The price for the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America remains continued plunder and the exploitation and oppression of the peoples of these countries. ★


The Carter grin, friendly handshake and evangelical "human rights" campaign don't convince. The horror of U.S. imperialism is written into every chapter of U.S. foreign relations. It has not ended and will not be forgotten.

Revolutionary Literature and Art

From the People's Socialist Republic of Albania

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Johnny Paycheck Sings for UMWA Bureaucrats

During the recent coal strike, listeners of mining country radio stations were treated to a new "country song", courtesy of Johnny Paycheck and the sell-out bureaucrats of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA). Paycheck sang, "Spread the good news, spread it around", and asked miners to ratify the worthless contract proposal. "Nobody has to tell my coal mining buddies this coal strike has been a long, tough drag. But there comes a time when we must settle our differences and get back to the real job. I think we've done a lot of good work together and I'm sure glad the union has been able to secure a good agreement."

This was part of UMWA President Arnold Miller's unsuc--cessful $40,000 advertising splurge to prettify his traitorous contract proposal. But the miners rejected it by a two-to-one margin on March 5th.

Paycheck's hit single "Take This Job and Shove It" had already made him a current country-western celebrity, and the UMWA leaders hoped that he would have some influence with the militant miners. But Paycheck's position is as bankrupt as the UMWA Health Fund, and his cowardly appeals to go back to work were ignored by the miners.

Paycheck's ads contained outright lies. "The old folks can get the pensions back and the health benefits can be restored."

Since he's serving the interests of the capitalists and the union bureaucrats, Paycheck "forgot" to say that the contract proposed that pensions and health benefits be restored only if the miners agreed to give up the right to strike and bind themselves to murderously high rates of production.

Paycheck got a nice lump of dough and some free publicity. In return, the already exposed union leaders got someone to push their sell-out contract. The capitalists and their government were delighted to see a "working-class troubador" trying to spread defeatism among the workers.

Johnny (sell-out-for-a) Paycheck offers nothing to miners and other working people. His ads for Arnold Miller were clear proof that he, and other country-western stars (remember Loretta Lynn's ads for AMEX?) like Merle Haggard and Johnny Cash are directly serving the interests of the coal operators and the whole bourgeoisie.

Top Forty country music is produced and broadcast by monopoly corporations. It deals with certain problems in the lives of working people, but only because it sells records. But the problems are usually put forward as something we just have to live with until that day when, alone; we find the nerve to say **Shove It!**

This is no solution. Working class people need to act together in their own political party that really fights for their interests and against all capitalist exploitation. As long as country music remains in the hands of the bourgeoisie, it will always serve their interests and spread their lies. We need real working people's songs like Florence Reece's "Which Side Are You On?", written during the 1934 Harlan County miners' strike.

Paycheck and his kind ignore all this because they've sold out the working class from which they came. They have nothing to offer to working people except slick deception. The working class must create its own songs – songs of struggle, songs of victory. Let's create a culture that will serve the whole working class in its struggle to overthrow monopoly capitalism!

Create Revolutionary Working Class Culture!

Self-Reliant Struggle in Eritrea

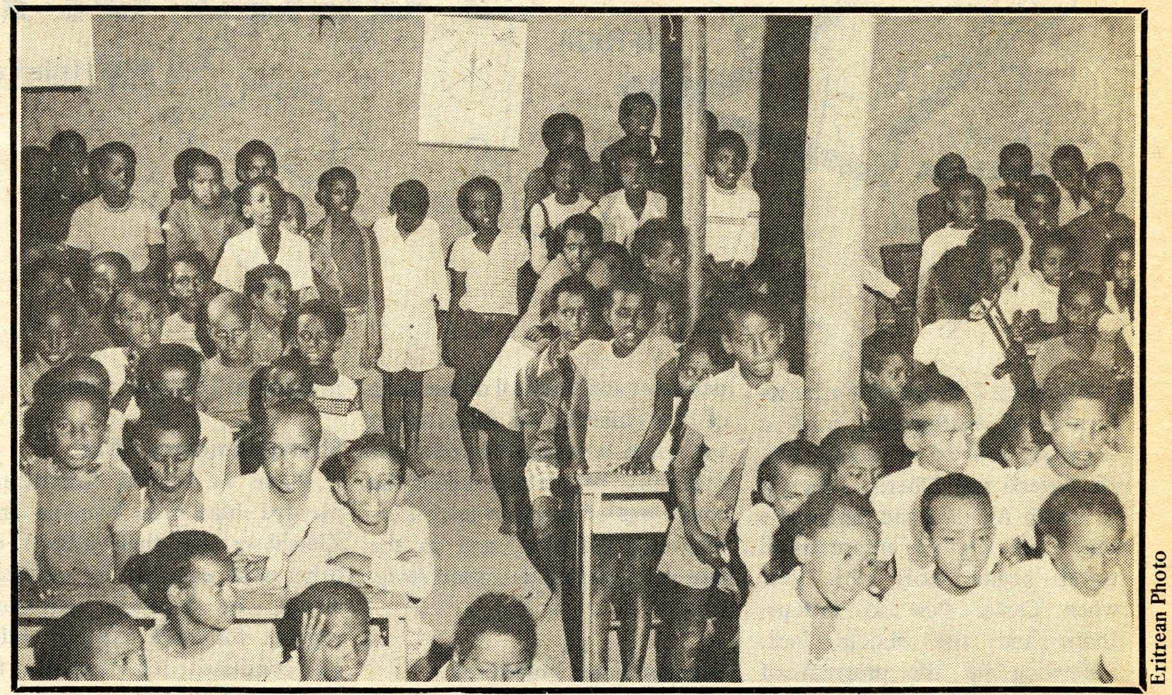
Third in a series written for **UNITE!** *by the Association of Eritrean Students in North America (AESNA).*

The revolutionary armed national liberation struggle of the Eritrean people now in its 17th year is irresistibly advancing forward. Led by the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), the Eritrean revolution is winning decisive victories against the Ethiopian aggressors, imperialism, zionism and internal reaction. Despite massive Cuban and Soviet intervention to crush the Eritrean revolution, the fighting Eritrean masses and their vanguard EPLF are continuing their triumphant march forward. Ethiopian colonialism is now in its final demise and almost the whole of Eritrea is liberated with the solid groundwork for a new people's democratic Eritrea already laid.

The vast liberated areas of Eritrea have today become an impregnable revolutionary fortress where deep-going social transformation is being carried out. Adhering to the principle of self-reliance, the EPLF is building a new social order on the ruins of the colonial and feudal structures. The reconstruction and consolidation of the liberated areas is fully underway. The EPLF has achieved tremendous progress in organizing, politicizing and arming the masses and in leading and assisting them to set up their democratic people's power. By mobilizing the material and human resources of the country, the EPLF is developing a self-reliant economy and a revolutionary mass culture. It is spreading mass education and extensive health services throughout the country. It is leading the peasant masses in a thorough agrarian revolution to own their land and overthrow the feudal order. Self-reliance is the watch-word in implementing the national democratic program. The strategy of a self-reliant development is rooted in the EPLF's basic trust and confidence in the will and strength of the Eritrean people to liberate themselves from colonial and feudal oppression and exploitation. Realizing that revolution is the work of the masses, the EPLF relies on the Eritrean masses through mobilizing them and releasing their boundless energy and revolutionary zeal.

In its self-reliant effort the EPLF gives top priority to the organization, politicization and arming of the masses. On this basis it is successfully leading the masses in building their own strong mass associations. Hence today the mass organizations of workers, peasants, women, youth and students have become the sole organs of power. In the liberated villages and cities, the masses through their associations have established their people's assemblies and are managing their own affairs. The EPLF has armed the masses by forming people's militias to defend the gains they have won.

On the economic front, following the slogan "self-reliance is the key to victory", the EPLF is making every effort to attain self-sufficiency in food production and other necessities. In this task large plantations of fruits, vegetables and cotton that used to be owned by the Ethiopian colonial government and foreign capitalists have been nationalized to serve the needs of the revolution and the masses. The EPLF's Department of Agriculture has reclaimed large tracts of land and is growing crops such as sorghum, corn, peas, etc. to satisfy the food needs of the fighters and the masses. By providing all possible assistance, the EPLF has also enabled the masses to increase production. By pooling every bit of knowledge and experience in the front and using local resources and material captured from the enemy, underground workshops and small factories have been established throughout the liberated areas to manufacture necessary goods such as tables, chairs, pots and pans, oil lamps, shoes and other leather items and spare parts for damaged weapons and machines. People's stores have been established throughout the liberated areas to provide the masses with necessary consumer goods. The EPLF also provides modest transportation services to the masses. Connecting all parts of the country, it has constructed thousands of kilometers of roads of which the Liberation Road–1500 km – is the most outstanding achievement. Using the numerous buses and trucks captured from the enemy, extensive bus lines have been set up. Considerable effort is also being made to put the rich mineral resources of the country in the service of the revolution. At this stage the EPLF is extracting salt not only for home consumption but also for export.



Eritrean Photo

A classroom in one of the more than 200 new revolutionary schools. The EPLF is carrying out an extensive literacy campaign throughout the liberated areas in order to raise the political consciousness of the masses and improve their cultural well-being.

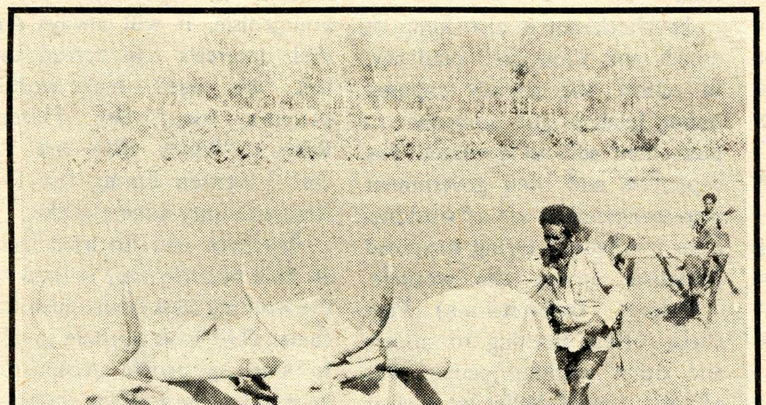
On the educational, cultural and medical fronts great strides have also been made. To raise the political consciousness and cultural level of the masses, the EPLF is carrying out an extensive literacy campaign and establishing new schools with revolutionary curriculum. Over 200 schools of the new type have already been built where young and old, men and women, are able to attend. In Sahel province, a revolutionary model boarding school where 1300 students are at the moment attending, has been built. Likewise, in the field of culture, the EPLF is developing a new mass culture and in this task of promoting a revolutionary culture among the masses the EPLF has set up a youth cultural group. The Cultural Branch develops songs and dances promoting the progressive aspect of the nationalities' culture and popularizing the militant and patriotic history of the people, and plays an important role in politicizing and uniting the masses in struggle.

Despite its limited resources, the EPLF's medical service to the masses have been extensive. In this effort it has built six large hospitals, 32 clinics and trained over 500 squad doctors. In the first nine months of 1977 alone, EPLF's Department of Health treated over one million people in its hospitals and clinics and is making an extensive campaign to educate the masses in preventive medicine, to eliminate communicable diseases through inoculation and vaccination.

On the military front, implementing the slogan of self-reliance, "destroy the enemy with his own guns and bullets", the EPLF has captured thousands of light and heavy weapons including Soviet and U.S.-supplied tanks from the Ethiopian agressors. Hence today, the vast majority of the Eritrean People's Liberation Army and the entire EPLF's people's militia are armed with weapons captured in the battlefields.

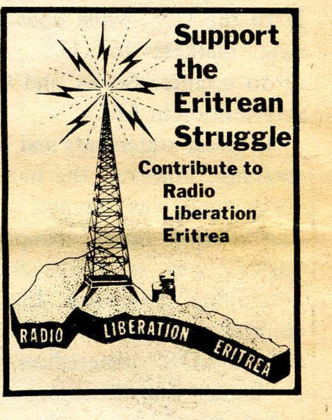
Self-reliant protracted people's war is the only way to victory. At the same time the political, material and moral support of the revolutionary and democratic forces of the world is necessary for the acceleration of the victory of the Eritrean revolution. The Eritrean revolution has concretely proven that only by following a self-reliant road can a revolution guarantee its independence and complete victory. The unprecedented victories the revolution has been winning are results of the implementation of the revolutionary principle of self-reliance. The road of self-reliance is shattering the counter-revolutionary machinations of the enemies of the Eritrean revolution and earning it the support and admiration of the revolutionary forces throughout the world. The self-reliant Eritrean struggle will definitely surmount all difficulties and give forth an independent people's democratic Eritrea in the near future.

Onward with the Struggle!



Eritrean Photo

Fighters are engaged in production in the Eritrean countryside. Unlike imperialist armies, the liberation soldiers of the EPLF do not make themselves a burden on the masses. Instead, they join the struggle to raise production self-reliantly.



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REVOLUTION IN ERITREA!

a film showing

Revolution in Eritrea! is a 27-minute, documentary film made by the BBC in April 1977. The film depicts life in the liberated areas of Eritrea, the fighting between the people's army and the troops of the fascist Ethiopian junta, and the Eritrean people's struggle for national independence and new democracy under the leadership of the Eritrean Peoples's liberation Front.

Eritrea in Revolution!
will be shown in the following cities:

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New Orleans, Louisiana
Birmingham, Alabama
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Chicago, Illinois

Sponsored by **UNITE!** and the **Association of Eritrean Students of North America,** watch for dates and times in **UNITE!** and local newspapers.

With the Help of Italian Revisionists

Fascist Legislation in Italy

VOTA COMUNISTA

"Vote Communist" banner hangs above St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican in Rome. The revisionist Communist Party of Italy has "challenged" the ruling party in recent elections. In the past few weeks, they have fully supported the capitalists' new fascist legislation.

As the capitalist crisis in Italy continues to deepen, the bourgeoisie looks more and more to fascism as a way out. Taking advantage of the March 17 kidnaping of former Prime Minister Aldo Moro, the bourgeoisie has pushed through new fascist legislation – ostensibly to curb terrorist kidnaping – but actually to crush all revolutionary activity. The capitalists have gained full support for this legislation from the revisionist Communist Party of Italy.

This new legislation imposes a mandatory life term for kidnaping that results in the death of the victim and 30 years for all other kidnapings. In the past the sentence was at the discretion of the judge.

The more fascist aspect of this legislation is that it gives the police the right to order telephone taps without requiring written authorization; these taps can later show up in the records of the case. It also provides that a suspect can be questioned without the presence of a lawyer and may be detained without cause for a longer period of time than in the past.

The reckless activities of the terrorist gangs have made the implementation of the bourgeoisie's plans for fascism much easier. Their activity can in no way further the cause of the Italian people, who have been waging heroic struggle against the current crisis.

For its part, the revisionist Italian Communist Party, led by Berlinguer, came running to the aid of the bourgeoisie, pledging full support for this fascist legislation.

But this is only the latest attempt by the revisionists to underscore their bid for political power within the Italian bourgeois state. They are frantically trying to prove to the Italian bourgeoisie that they can be trusted to protect and uphold the existing capitalist system. They have declared themselves in support of NATO and directly opposed to violent revolution. They say that the solution to the unemployment of two million Italian people and the inflation rate of nearly 19% is greater "democratization" of society. This means the "right" for the revisionists to share power with the capitalists while the working class bears more of the burden of the crisis.

The revisionists have denounced all struggles of the Italian workers and students as "left excesses" and have supported the brutal attacks by police and fascist gangs against demonstrators and strikers. They have proven conclusively that they have absolute unity with the other bourgeois parties and that they want to crush the growing revolutionary tide in Italy.

The implementation of the new fascist legislation by the Italian bourgeoisie will mean greater repression of the Italian working and oppressed people. It will be used to try to crush the genuine vanguard of the revolutionary struggle in Italy, the Communist Party of Italy, Marxist-Leninist.

But the Marxist-Leninist Party, leading the working class and its allies, is not ceasing its struggle under these conditions. It is rising ever stronger, determined to turn this crisis of the bourgeoisie into a revolutionary situation favorable to the advance of the working class and socialist revolution. ★

★

From the People's Socialist Republic of Albania

The Ideas of the October Revolution are Defended and Carried Forward In Struggle Against Modern Revisionism, a speech by Hysni Kapo, delivered at the Commemorative meeting on the Occasion of the 60th Anniversary of the Great October Revolution, November 7, 1977 75c *

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Speeches by Enver Hoxha, 1961-62,*, $2.50, **Speeches and Articles**, 1963-4*, $1.50, **Speeches, Conversations, Articles**, 1965-66*, $2.50 and **Speeches**, 1967-68*, 1969-70 $1.50 and 1971-73 $1.60

*** indicates available in Spanish. Albanian materials also available in Spanish include:**

History of the Party of Labor of Albania, $2.75 and the **Selected Works of Enver Hoxha**, Vol. I and Vol. II $5.25 each/ hardback.

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CONGRESO OBRERO ASAMBLEISTA

Resistance Mounts Under Leadership of Marxist-Leninist Party

Massive Demonstrations Spread Across Spain

Since the beginning of 1978, the workers and peasants of Spain have been mounting powerful demonstrations directed against the Juan Carlos regime. These demonstrations have completely exposed the farce of "democratization" of Spain.

When Juan Carlos inherited the power in Spain after the death of the fascist Franco, he promised to lift the ban on democratic rights in Spain. However, as recent events show, Juan Carlos is a fascist, too, and has no intention of granting democratic rights to the masses of Spanish workers and peasants.

Recently, as electoral workers for the Association of Workers' Assemblies (AOA) were canvassing for their candidates in opposition to the reactionary trade union bureaucrats, the police detained 15 of them without cause. Among them were leading members of the AOA, Spain's revolutionary trade union center.

At the same time, however, the reactionary trade union leaders, like Carrero of the General Union of Workers (UGT) (which corresponds to the AFL-CIO), have complete liberty the push their line of class collaboration. It is because the AOA defends a revolutionary line that it is not allowed to carry out agitation in defense of the working class, even though it is a legal organization.

The fascist Juan Carlos regime has met with stiff opposition in recent months, as massive demonstrations have swept across Spain from the countryside to the largest cities.

On February 27, tens of thousands of people in the San Sebastion region demonstrated against the regime's use of nuclear reactors in the area. The police violently attacked the demonstration. The people threw up barricades and battled for a long time against the police.

In mid-March, 100,000 metal workers, miners and farmworkers in the Andalucia region went out on strike protesting the repression of the regime.

On March 19, 30,000 unemployed workers marched in Madrid, protesting the attempts by the bourgeoisie to place the burden of the current economic crisis on the backs of the workers.

In the midst of this growing revolutionary movement, the Communist Party of Spain (Marxist-Leninist) held a plenary session of its Central Committee on February 21-23. At this significant meeting, the comrades discussed the international situation and completely condemned the revisionist theory of the "three worlds". They had a full discussion of the current situation of class struggle in Spain. The comrades pointed out that in the current economic crisis thousands of workers were already on layoff, with thousands more facing the same each day.

They went on to discuss an important characteristic of this political situation: namely, that the masses were not responding defensively, but were moving into an offensive position. The Central Committee called on the comrades of the Party to make good use of the workers' organizations in mobilizing the masses, and to rely on various forms of struggle in order to build the position of the workers against the capitalists and other reactionaries.

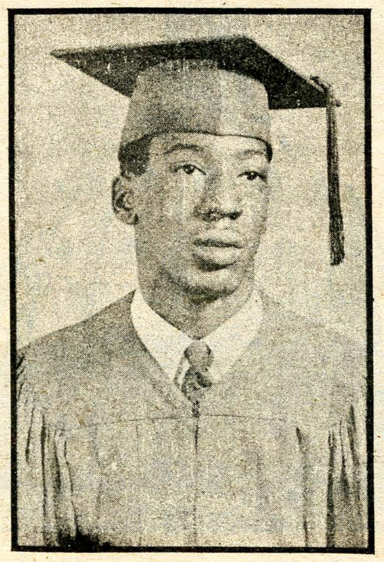
"We must intensify our efforts to organize the thousands of poor rural workers in the countryside. The Party is advancing resolutely in unmasking the traitors and reinforcing the ties between the Party and the masses", the Central Committee declared.

Under the leadership of the Communist Party of Spain (M-L), the masses are strengthening their ability to resist the increased attacks of the Juan Carlos regime. The Party through its work among the masses is exposing the sham "democracy" of the fascist regime and the treacherous class collaboration of all the opportunists and trade union bureaucrats.

Armed with the science of Marxism-Leninism, and tested in the heat of class struggle, the vanguard Party is leading the working class to the final downfall of the bourgeoisie of Spain.

Boycott and March Organized to Protest Grand Jury Whitewash

Alabama Police Murder Black Man After Traffic Violation



Graduation picture of Madden, murdered by police. In Gadsden, Alabama a white person who ran a traffic light would not be shot 16 times by police, nor would the killers get off scot free.

Lynching – the public and unpunished murdering of Blacks– has not abated in the Black Belt South. On January 20, two white policemen in Gadsden, Alabama murdered Collis "Stewball" Madden, a 27-year-old Black man and father of five children. Collis Madden was another victim of the national oppression of Blacks in the United States.

Madden was stopped by the police for a routine traffic violation. After stopping, he started off again. According to his wife, Juanda, the murderers must have said something to scare him, to make him fear for his life. The police claim that Madden, though unarmed, "attacked them with his car" and then led them on a "high speed chase". Killing Madden, they said, was "self-defense in the line of duty"– preventing the flight of a dangerous traffic violator.

It was physically impossible for Madden to have attacked the officers with his car doors as the cops claim, and witnesses say that the "high speed chase" was at less than 30 miles per hour. Other witnesses saw the police fire 39 shots, emptying their revolvers into Madden's already lifeless body. An autopsy showed that he had been shot 16 times.

Apparently Madden thought that he was running for his life when he drove away from the police, and his murder shows that those fears were justified. Mrs. Madden and her mother, Mrs. Alice Guice, told **UNITE!** that something had frightened Madden before he was shot. "You could see the dried up tears and fear on his face" even in death, Juanda Madden said. The Maddens' oldest daughter told her mother that police had followed them to a shoe store, a snack shop and home again when she had gone out with her father the morning of the day he was shot.

This is one of the most public, brutal attacks on Blacks in recent times, but it is only one of a series of lynchings by the Klan and police in Etowah County. In 1975, Reverend Pace, a Black minister, moved into an integrated neighborhood. He was shot and killed at his new home and his church was burned shortly after that. Clifford Nelson, another Black man, was taken to City Hall for questioning in some crime and never came out. Police shot him, claiming that he had attacked one of his interrogators with a machete.

In all three cases, the murderers were never charged or convicted. With information provided by the Alabama Bureau of Investigation, the grand jury in Gadsden found that the police had been acting in the line of duty when they shot Collis Madden. The grand jury brought no indictments against the cops. In Gadsden, the Klan and the state obviously still believe that Blacks have no democratic rights which whites are bound to respect – including the right to live.

Madden's murder and the grand jury's "No Bill" have stirred the Black community in Etowah County to action. Under the leadership of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), Blacks have marched on City Hall demanding the indictment and conviction of Madden's murderers. An economic boycott and picketing of white Gadsden merchants has been 75-80% effective, according to Joe Cole, the local SCLC president. The city fathers have apparently bought off the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the Voters' League and most of the Black ministers, all of whom have withdrawn their original support of the boycott. But the boycott has remained strong and Blacks are poking fun at the ministers who are hiding under their beds.

On Saturday, March 11, more than 700 Blacks and a handful of whites marched on downtown Gadsden to protest the grand jury's findings. The spirit of the march was strong and the people militant.

The SCLC leaders who spoke, however, had nothing to offer the Blacks of Etowah County except some pious phrases about non-violence and the memory of M.L. King Jr. The SCLC can lead protest marches and boycotts of merchants but cannot, by the nature of SCLC leadership's allegiance to the capitalist system, lead Blacks to fight for their democratic rights.

The right to defend yourself is a democratic right written in the U.S. Constitution, but the SCLC is not even willing to advocate this, let alone a revolutionary response to these reactionary attacks on Blacks.

Collis Madden's death has intensified the war between Blacks and the white ruling class of Etowah County. One 64-year-old woman at the march declared that "people in Gadsden ain't scared – that ain't in style no more." Marchers derided Blacks who stood on the sidelines out of fear for their jobs and their position with the white ruling class. As one young man noted, if whites get away with killing Blacks, then most Blacks have no position to lose.

The brutal lynching of Collis Madden and other Blacks in the Black Belt South are clear cases of national oppression. Every Black in Gadsden recognizes that a white person who ran a traffic light would not be murdered by the police, nor would the killers get off scot free.

The root of white supremacy and national oppression of Blacks is the imperialist domination of the Black Belt by the U.S. capitalists. Both poor whites and Blacks suffer from common exploitation by the large capitalists. But national oppression is an extra yoke on the shoulders of Blacks, especially in the Black Belt South, the home of the Black Nation in the United States. Whites cannot deny this special repression of Blacks which cuts across class lines.

Blacks in Gadsden and the whole Black Belt must take up arms to defend themselves against the murdering police and the Klan. The right of armed self-defense is an integral part of the fight of the oppressed Black Nation to throw off the rule of the imperialists and to determine its own destiny.

Self-Determination for the Black Nation!

Stop Police Attacks On Black People!

Convict the Killers of Collis Madden!

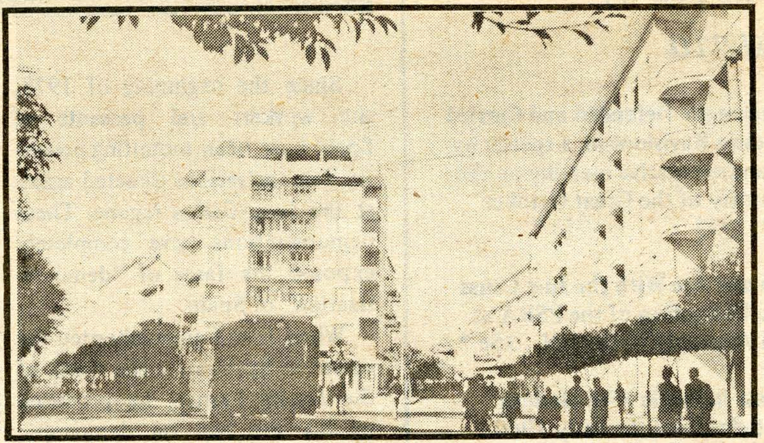
Chinatown Community Fights For Low-Cost Housing

Like many other minority urban communities, San Francisco Chinatown has been facing tremendous rent hikes of 200% and more. One small shop keeper had his rent raised from $700 to $2000 in one year. These hikes have been hitting working class families, the elderly, and small shopkeepers the hardest.

At the same time as rents are going sky high, no new low-cost housing is being built, even though the government stated six years ago that 2,400 new units were needed. A number of spontaneous rent strikes is just one expression of growing community resistance to the rent hikes.

The more recent issue is the proposed Phase II of the Chinatown Redevelopment Plan which promises new housing in Chinatown core areas for the elderly and low-income families. The plans are being held up, however, by the reactionary Chinese Nationalist Party (Kuo Min Tang or KMT) and six big companies which represent large Chinatown merchants who own most of the property on the proposed sites. As well, the city has failed to raise sufficient funding for the project, having raised only $2 million in six years.

Right now the main focus of the struggle must be against the City Planning Agency and only secondarily against the reactionaries within the community. It is the city government that has held back the implementation of this new housing, because it represents the interests of the monopoly capitalists who continually destroy low-cost housing like the International Hotel, in order to build large commercial developments. The big capitalists are using the local reactionaries to divide the Chinese community and divert the attention to internal struggles among the Chinese people.



Albanian Photo

Only socialism will solve the problem of low-cost housing for the masses of working people. Living in these new apartments, Albanian workers pay only 4%of their total income on rent.

We must build the broadest united front, all those who can be united to fight for the democratic right of low-cost housing for the Chinese community.

At the same time we must also struggle against the reactionaries whenever they go against the interests of the broad masses to promote their own political and economic interests.

A coalition uniting various progressive and liberal forces – the Chinatown Coalition for Better Housing – has developed guidelines for all new construction. They include:

☐ More housing units
☐ Affordable rents
☐ Minimal relocation
☐ Opportunities for owner participation
☐ Compensation where re-location is unavoidable
☐ Rent supplements for new and rehabilitated units
☐ Affirmative action in all contracts and employment

The Marxist-Leninist Organizing Committee supports the Coalition's proposals as a way of uniting all who can be united to fight for low-cost housing. We further propose that the Coalition:

☐ Take a consistent stand to fight for low-cost housing for working and retired people and oppose all who who do not genuinely fight for community housing needs.
☐ Demand the government provide funds to implement Phase II now.
☐ Support all struggles for affordable rents and tenants' rights.

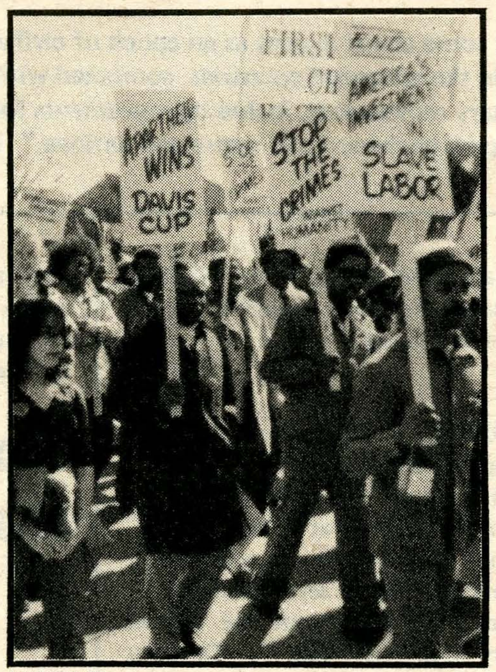
This struggle for low-cost housing is a constant battle for the working and oppressed people under capitalism. Capitalism continually will place profits above the genuine needs of the working class. This is why as we fight for low-cost housing, we must also fight for the end of the capitalist system and fight for socialism.

DEFEND THE
International Hotel
RALLY TO STOP EVICTIONS

The struggle to save the I-Hotel was a bitter battle against "urban removal" that destroys homes for high-profit commerical developments.

NAACP Moves to Water Down Revolutionary Support for Azania

Thousands Join In DavisCupProtest



UNITE! Photo

Over three days, thousands gathered in Nashville at rallies, marches and picket lines, to stand up against the racist South African regime. They denounced U.S. compliance with signs reading "End U.S. Investment in Slave Labor".

Nashville, Tennessee – With more picketers outside than spectators inside, the Davis Cup tennis matches last month provided a graphic demonstration of the growing movement in the U.S. to support the liberation movements in Africa.

Thousands of people gathered between March 17 and 19 to protest South Africa's participation in the matches being held at Vanderbilt University. Rallies, marches, and picketing of the gym where the tournament was held combined to cut attendance at the games to a fraction of the expected crowd.

Due to widespread opposition, it is unlikely that South Africa will be allowed to participate in Davis Cup competition next year, according to U.S. Tennis Association President W.E. Hester.

NAACP Promotes Itself as Leader

But the real political significance of these events is not the exclusion of South Africa from the Davis Cup play, or even the growing support in the U.S. for Black liberation in Africa, although these are both important. The new development in Nashville is the sudden appearance on the scene by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) as a "leader" in the African liberation support movement. Through the NAACP the liberal bourgeoisie in the U.S. is attempting to take over leadership of this growing mass movement in an attempt to divert it away from any revolutionary activity.

NAACP Executive Director Benjamin Hooks proclaimed a "new era of activism" for the organization as he and other civil rights leaders led a march Saturday calling upon South Africa to grant "human rights" to Blacks. Following the three-mile march a crowd of 3000 gathered at Centennial Park for the NAACP rally. Hooks proclaimed,"We are just starting here today, and we will lead other marches in other cities. We shall march until all God's children are free." Hooks, who was "very pleased" with the march, said the "spirit was marvelous." Earlier he stated that if the march attracted even 2000 persons it would be the largest civil rights demonstration since the 1960's. This outright lie is an attempt to cover up the fact that the movement for African liberation support was well underway before the NAACP decided to get up and "lead" it. In 1976 over 10,000 people demonstrated in Washington on African Liberation Day and nearly that number marched again in 1977.

Revolutionary Nature of African Struggle Obscured

All of the speakers at the Nashville rally condemned apartheid in South Africa, but the real nature of the struggle there was not mentioned. The call in South Africa is not for "human rights" but for Black majority rule. Blacks have rejected non-violence and the "moral disarming" of their oppressors as ineffective. The lessons of the Sharpeville Massacre, the lessons of the youth of Soweto being shot down in the street, have been taken to heart.

Under the leadership of the Pan Africanist Congress, the Black South Africans (Azanians) have launched an all-round struggle to seize political power. The heart of this struggle is a revolutionary war to overthrow the oppressors. If we are to support the "human rights" of Azanian people we must support this revolution. That means not just moral support in "love and peace" a la Martin Luther King, which Hooks calls for. It means money, guns and a political movement here which can prevent U.S. military intervention in South Africa.

NAACP Sabotages Revolution

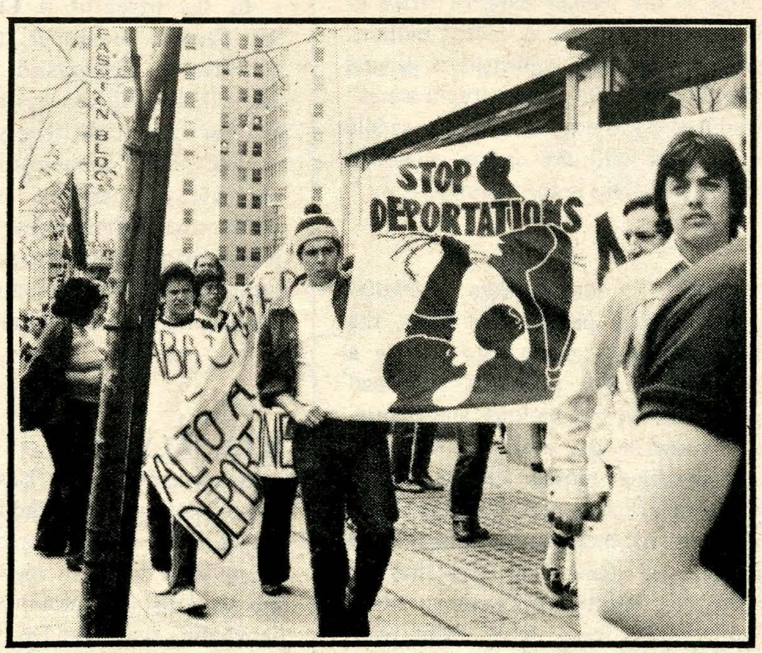
The NAACP cannot lead such a movement. Its opposition to revolutionary means and ends is so strong that it condemned even Martin Luther King's pacifist opposition to the imperialist war in Vietnam. The NAACP has historically sabotaged the revolutionary struggle for Black emancipation in this country. In 1967, Executive Director Roy Wilkins issued a joint statement with Martin Luther King and other Black leaders condemning the rioting in the ghettos as the acts of "criminal elements" and calling on the government to use all necessary force in suppressing further uprisings. The NAACP even opposed non-violent mass actions organized by King, accusing him of "stirring up trouble". In 1963 the NAACP kicked Robert Williams out of the organization for calling on Blacks to arm themselves in self-defense against terror attacks.

The NAACP is promoting itself as **the** organization which Blacks can count on to fight for their immediate interests. But where was the NAACP when the Scottsboro case first came up? No where to be found. Not until it was clear that the Communist Party was leading the fight to free these young men did the NAACP try to worm its way into the forefront. Did NAACP fight for the freedom of Angela Davis? No! Did they fight police attacks on the Black Panther Party? No! Are they launching a mass campaign to free Imari Obadeli of the Republic of New Africa who was framed on criminal charges by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for demanding land and power for the Black Nation? No! Because of its counter-revolutionary stand the NAACP cannot defend the rights of Blacks against the U.S. imperialists.

Because of its counter-revolutionary stand the NAACP cannot bring out clearly the connection between the struggle of Blacks in this country and the liberation struggle in South Africa. Imperialism survives only by the oppression of nations. It must retain control of the markets, natural resources, and labor-power of oppressed nations in order to survive. The U.S. bourgeoisie grows ever richer from the plunder of the Black Nation here and of the Azanians in Africa. The U.S. imperialists will not surrender such treasures without a long, bloody battle. The common bond, then, between these oppressed peoples is their determined fight to destroy a common enemy.

The NAACP cannot lead the revolution here or support the revolution in Azania because the NAACP depends on the U.S. imperialist bourgeoisie for its very existence. It receives money, publicity and prestige in return for diverting the righteous anger of oppressed Blacks onto the path of non-violence, the path of begging for crumbs instead of fighting for freedom. Since the U.S. government's violent suppression of the revolutionary trend in the Black national movement, the NAACP has stood ready to take credit for all the gains that struggle achieved. The NAACP must be ruthlessly exposed. Its program for surrender must be replaced by a revolutionary program for the overthrow of U.S. imperialism and its South African lackeys. ★

Stop Deportations! Stop Carter's Sham Amnesty Plan!



UNITE! Photo

Marchers in Los Angeles denounced the bourgeoisie's slander campaign against Mexican workers, which blames immigrants for crime, unemployment, welfare, the crisis of capitalism in general.

Calling for an end to deportations and Carter's sham "amnesty" plan, a multi-national demonstration of 300 people marched through the largely Latino neighborhoods of downtown Los Angeles on Saturday, March 18. Sponsored by the National Coalition for Fair Immigration Laws and Practices, this demonstration was one of several which took place that weekend, nationwide. 150 people also marched through downtown Chicago that weekend.

Taking part in the demonstration were many people who had come to Los Angeles from Mexico looking for the promise of a better life that they had been told would greet them here.

Having been kept unemployed in Mexico by an economy oppressed by U.S. imperialism, Mexican workers came to the U.S., only to find the same unemployment or underemployment. Here they are faced with the constant threat of deportations while being forced into the most menial, non-union, lowest paying, backbreaking jobs. The U.S. bourgeoisie also uses them as scapegoats to blame for the rising unemployment, crime, welfare and the economic crisis in general.

Carter's solution to the "problem" of undocumented workers is a sham amnesty plan. (See box) His plan, like all of the plans of the bourgeoisie, is to try to divide the working class along national lines.

But this demonstration indicated that the working and oppressed people are beginning to actively oppose Carter's sham amnesty plan and all further attacks on undocumented workers. The demonstration instead raised the demand **We want jobs, not deportations!** The democratic rights of all workers, including those workers in the U.S. who are citizens of other countries must be fought for and defended.

Stop Deportations!

The Carter "Amnesty" Plan

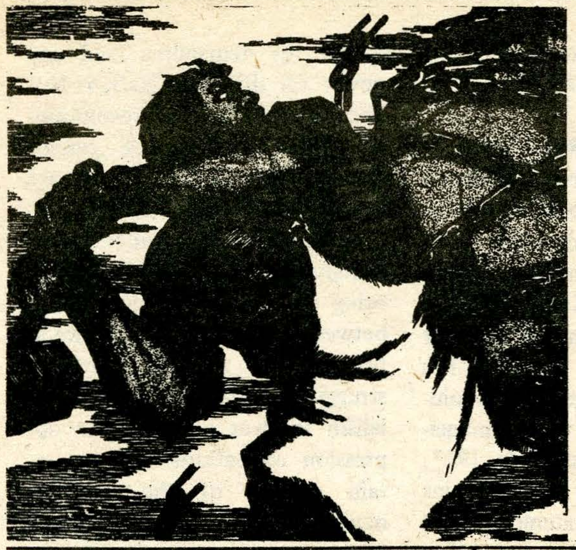
The plan includes:

All documented workers who have resided continuously in the U.S. on or before January 1, 1970 can apply for permanent resident status. This status can lead to full citizenship in five years.

All undocumented workers who have lived in the U.S. before January 1, 1977 and who register with the INS, will be granted temporary resident status for five years. They can be issued work permits, but cannot receive Medicaid, foodstamps or other government benefits. During this five-year period, a final decision will be made about their legal status.

All undocumented workers arriving after January 1, 1977 will be deported upon apprehension.

Measures will also be taken to "increase existing border enforcement efforts". A minimum of 2,000 additional border patrol agents will be placed on the Mexican border.



Imperialism is the eve of proletarian revolution!

> **"The social revolution cannot come about except as an epoch of civil war of the proletariat against the bourgeoisie in the advanced countries, combined with a whole series of democratic and revolutionary movements, including movements for national liberation, in the undeveloped, backward and oppressed nations." LENIN**

Workers' Movement

■ **BELGIUM** – The movement of strikes and protests by the Belgian workers is steadily gaining in strength. Steelworkers and youth have held demonstrations in recent months to protest the high rate of unemployment. In early March, 10,400 workers of the Ford Motor Company plant in Genk went on strike to demand improved working conditions. The day before this strike, the Belgian soldiers, sailors and airmen staged a powerful demonstration against the Belgian government. 20,000 soldiers marched through Brussels, denouncing the government for low wages and poor conditions.

■ **PERU** – In early March, Peruvian workers staged a nation-wide strike involving hundreds of thousands of workers in various branches of industry. The workers held protest demonstrations in many cities of the country, including the capital, Lima. The demands of the workers are for increased pay and an end to the repression by the fascist regime in power. In Lima, fierce street fighting occured between workers and police and soldiers sent to disperse the demonstration. Barricades were erected in the streets and the fighting continued for hours.

This is the second national strike of the Peruvian workers in recent months. Last July, workers launched a general strike to oppose the "austerity measures" introduced by the government to saddle the workers with the severe economic and financial crisis in the country.

■ **IRAN** – More than 100,000 Iranian political prisoners at Qsar, the country's largest prison, are waging a hunger strike. The prisoners, who had been convicted of various anti-government activities by military tribunals, are demanding retrials before civilian courts and are also protesting the brutal conditions of their imprisonment. The prisoners are demanding that they be allowed to receive uncensored newspapers, better food, relief from overcrowded prisons and relaxation of restrictions around visiting rights.

There have been a number of clashes outside the prison between heavily armed police and troops and relatives of prisoners. More than 10 visitors have been detained by the police.

■ **WEST GERMANY** – More than 83,000 metal fabricating workers are on strike in the North Baden-Wurttemberg region of West Germany. 400,000 of their comrades in the metal industries of the Ruhr Valley region have also voted to go on strike. The workers have demanded an 8% pay raise, but it was rejected by the management. About 1.5 million metal workers in North Baden-Wurttemberg have also demanded pay raises.

The struggle of the metal workers follows a massive strike of dockworkers in the eight main West German ports last month. Printers in West Germany are on strike for guaranteed jobs and have crippled the major bourgeois newspapers.

An important feature of the current strike movement in West Germany is that it represents a rebellion of the workers against the collaborationist trade union bureaucrats as well as an attack against the capitalist class.

■ **BRAZIL** – On March 25, the Communist Party of Brazil celebrated the 56th anniversary of its founding. Founded in 1922, the Communist Party of Brazil has been obliged to carry out the struggle mainly underground. The heroic Party has for 56 years continued without interruption its political activity in the struggle for liberty, progress and socialism in the forefront of the working masses of Brazil.

With a vast and rich experience, the Communist Party of Brazil has always combined illegal activity with legal struggles of the masses. Using various forms of struggle, the Communist Party of Brazil has followed a correct political line and militant activity which shows that it is the true Marxist-Leninist Party of the proletariat.

In the pages of **A Classe Operaria**, the Party's newspaper, the Party has consistently denounced opportunism, particularly Khrushchevite revisionism and the opportunist theory of the "three worlds." The Communist Party of Brazil has always defended the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, presenting an enormously enriching contribution to the international communist movement.

■ **EL SALVADOR** – Thousands of peasants and workers have been waging demonstrations throughout the country for several weeks. Fierce clashes have taken place between regime troops and the workers and peasants Peasants are demanding their own land and protesting the high rents charged for arable land. The working people of El Salvador are protesting the use of terror by the dictatorship and the savage exploitation by the local capitalists and landowners and U.S. imperialism.

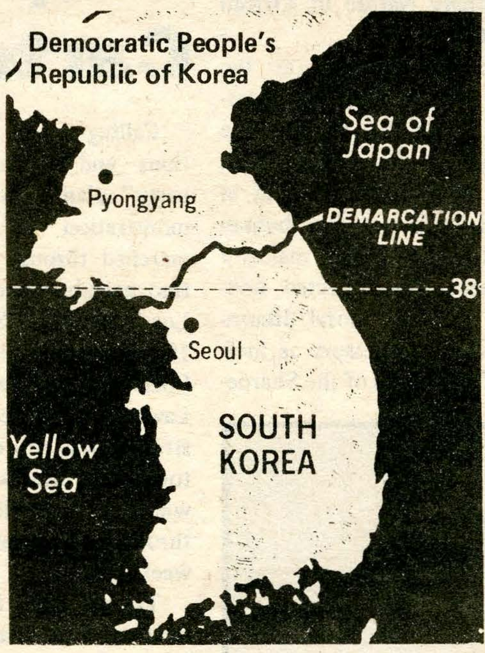
Evicted from their land, peasants go by thousands into cities where they swell the ranks of the unemployed, while others are ruthlessly exploited by local or U.S. companies. The situation is the same throughout Latin America.

The mounting upsurge of the working people of El Salvador is occuring at the same time that powerful mass movements are raging in at least two neighboring Central American countries, Nicaragua and Guatemala.

■ **KOREA** – South Korean workers denounced the fascist crimes of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique and demanded democratic freedom at a "Labor Day" ceremony sponsored by the government. The puppet clique set March 10 as "Labor Day" to prevent the Korean workers from celebrating May Day, the holiday of all workers, and has held a function every year to deceive and placate the South Korean workers.

This year the Park clique called nearly 8,000 workers to a rally to mark the day with the attendance of prime ministers and the leaders of the Hankuk Federation of Trade Unions, an organization completely under the domination of the government.

No sooner had the president of the Hankuk Federation started to speak than indignant shouts burst forth from the workers. Hundreds of textile workers dressed in company uniforms rose in unison and shouted "Down with pro-government labor leaders" and "Legalize Labor Union Movements". The meeting was thrown into confusion and the rally was broken up. To suppress the workers, the puppet police surrounded them and arrested many. Workers sang a song in high spirits while being taken away in police vans.



National Liberation

■ **AZANIA** – The Azanian people held a massive demonstration against the racist regime in Graaf-Reinet. The demonstration was organized in connection with the funeral of an Azanian youth murdered by the South African regime.

Hundreds of thousands of Azanian people traveled to Graaf-Reinet to participate in the funeral and then marched through the streets denouncing the regime. The demonstrators waged bloody battles against the large numbers of police who were rushed in against them, overturning many police vehicles and setting them on fire.

Socialist Construction

■ **KAMPUCHEA** – On April 17, 1975, the Kampuchean people, after having waged more than five years of revolutionary war of national and people's liberation with determination and sacrifices, against U.S. imperialism and their lackeys, liberated themselves from the exploitation and oppression of imperialism and colonialism and neo-colonialism. Since that time, the whole nation and people have put all their energy into building and defending their country – Democratic Kampuchea – on the principles of independence, sovereignty and self- reliance.

■ **ALBANIA** – On March 8, International Women's Day, Albanian newspapers devoted editorial and other articles to showing the freedom and rights women enjoy in Albania and the important role they play in socialist construction and the defense of the homeland.

The women of Albania are unyielding fighters for socialist revolution. The high assessment that the Party of Labor of Albania (PLA) and Comrade Enver Hoxha have made of the decisive role of women both in the anti-fascist national liberation war and in socialist construction has given women confidence in their capabilities and possibilities and given them force and courage to undertake any risk with maturity and readiness.

The liberation of Albanian women from any reactionary prejudices has been and is guided by Marxism-Leninism. Inspired by the lofty ideals of the PLA, women are working, learning, creating, organizing and leading in all fields of life: political, economic, social, educational, cultural, scientific and military. Women make up 46% of the working people in Albania, 27% of the Party membership, and about 40% of those elected to the organs of state power.

The active participation of woman and her equal rights with man at work, pay, vacation, social insurance, education, in all social-political activity and in the family are guaranteed by the Constitution of Albania and at the same time are put into practice. This is one of the greatest superiorities of socialism over capitalism.